# ウロボロス

ouroboros

警察ヲ裁クハ我ニアリ

9

Yūya Kanzaki
神崎裕也

Ⓢ 新潮社

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Yûya Kanzaki

NAME : HIBINO MIDUKI
AFFILIATION: **TOKYO MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION**
RANK: **ASSISTANT INSPECTOR**

NAME : DANNO TATSUYA
AFFILIATION: **ABIKO CLAN, THIRD BRIGADE, MATSUO GROUP**
TITLE: **VICE-HEAD**

NAME : RYUZAKI IKUO
AFFILIATION: **TOKYO MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION**
RANK: **SERGEANT**

NAME : HIBINO KUNIHIKO
AFFILIATION: **TOKYO MPD PERSONNEL AND TRAINING BUREAU, INSPECTION OFFICE**
RANK: **CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT**
POSITION: **ACTING CHIEF**

NAME : CHONO SHINICHI
AFFILIATION: **SHINJUKU FIRST DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS**
RANK: **INSPECTOR**

NAME : MISHIMA KAORU
AFFILIATION: **SHINJUKU SECOND DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS**
RANK: **INSPECTOR**
POSITION: **SECTION CHIEF**



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CAST&STORY

NAME : ARAGAKI NAOYA
AFFILIATION: **TOKYO MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION**
RANK: **INSPECTOR**
POSITION: **LEADER, ELEVENTH TEAM**

NAME : TACHIBANA TOMIKO
AFFILIATION: **TOKYO MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION**
RANK: **SUPERINTENDENT**
POSITION: **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

NAME : BANDO SHIRO
AFFILIATION: **TOKYO MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION**
RANK: **INSPECTOR**

NAME : GOLD WATCH
NO DATA

NAME : OSHITARI KOJI
AFFILIATION: **NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY SECURITY BUREAU, SECURITY PLANNING DIVISION (ZERO)**
RANK: **SUPERINTENDENT**

NAME : GANAHA MAMORU
AFFILIATION: **NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY SECURITY BUREAU, SECURITY PLANNING DIVISION (ZERO)**
RANK: **SUPERINTENDENT**

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[STORY]
RYUUZAKI IKUO AND DANNO TATSUYA ARE BURDENED WITH A DARK PAST, WHERE THEIR BELOVED SENSEI WAS MURDERED AND THE CRIME, COVERED UP BY THE POLICE. TO UNCOVER THE SECRET BEHIND THE CASE, AND THE IDENTITY OF THE POLICEMAN WHO ORCHESTRATED THE COVER-UP, "GOLD WATCH", IKUO BECAME A DETECTIVE AND TATSUYA BECAME A GANGSTER.
THE MISFIT NEWCOMER DUO OF THE MPD, RYUZAKI IKUO AND HIBINO MIDUKI, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THEIR CHIEFS, INSPECTOR BANDOU AND SUPERINTENDENT TACHIBANA, PASS THEIR DAYS DEALING WITH CASES AND PROFESSIONAL CHORES. MEANWHILE, WITHIN THE MPD, THE ATMOSPHERE BECOMES TENSE AS A POWER DISPUTE UNFOLDS BETWEEN THE "SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL" AND "DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL" FACTIONS.
IN PARALLEL, THE "TWIN DRAGONS" IKUO AND TATSUYA CONNECT THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU OF THE MPD TO "GOLD WATCH", AND BEGIN TO GET CLOSER TO HIS IDENTITY AMID THE TOP BRASS OF THE MPD. THEIR PERSONAL VENDETTA BECOMES EVEN MORE TURBULENT!

# 【Second Season】

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Aiming 007

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# 狙
## 第1話
## CHAPTER 70: AIMING

THIS IS THE KIYOMIZAWA METROPOLITAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT SHIBUYA WARD, TOKYO.

AN EVENT IS TAKING PLACE HERE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MONTH-LONG CAMPAIGN TO ENHANCE TRAFFIC SECURITY, WHICH THE POLICE ARE LAUNCHING IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY TODAY!

KIYOMIZAWA METROPOLITAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TL/N: This is the beginning of season two, and chapter numbering was reset, but we're keeping the original sequence.

AH, THANK YOU.

PLEASE.

THIS EVENT IS AN ESTABLISHED PRACTICE OF THE POLICE AND IS AIMED AT THE INCOMING FIRST-YEARS...

SFX: step, step

TO USE THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING TOGETHER WITH A POLICE OFFICER!

HELLO, EVERYONE! NOW, LET'S HAVE FUN LEARNING

I'M THE SUPERINTEN-DENT-GENERAL OF THE METRO-POLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, KITAGAWA KIICHIROU.

NICE TO MEET YOU ALL,

THE MOTHERS STANDING IN THE BACK WILL ALSO LEARN WITH US HOW TO PREVENT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING YOUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN...

.....

WELL, YOU'RE RIGHT.

THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A REASON TO ATTEND THIS EVENT IN PERSON...

WHAT'S WRONG? WHY THE SIGH, NOW?

WHY I'M SIGHING, YOU ASK... I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OFF-DUTY TODAY.

AS SECURITY POLICE, WE ARE TASKED WITH PROTECTING HIGH-VALUE SUBJECTS LIKE HIM, AREN'T WE?

THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL IS THE HEAD OF THE TOKYO POLICE, THE CORNERSTONE OF THE POLICE SYSTEM.

TL/N: Fun fact: according to Wikipedia, the Superintendent General of the MPD is not protected by the Security Police.

DON'T SAY FOOLISH THINGS. THIS IS A MEDIA EVENT WITH A LARGE CROWD IN ATTENDANCE.

TO BEGIN WITH, FROM WHOM ARE WE EVEN PROTECTING THE SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL?

A VEHICLE GONE WILD, PERHAPS?

Since this is a traffic security campaign...

'KAAAY.

IF YOU HAVE TIME FOR IDLE TALK, USE IT INSTEAD TO SURVEY THE SURROUNDINGS.

YOU SAY THAT, BUT... ISN'T THIS EVENT JUST SOME PR SIDESHOW TO IMPROVE THE IMAGE OF THE POLICE?

ばー!!

SFX: Yeaah!

DON'T GIVE ME THAT. STARTING TODAY, YOU ARE A FIRST-YEAR, TAKUMA!

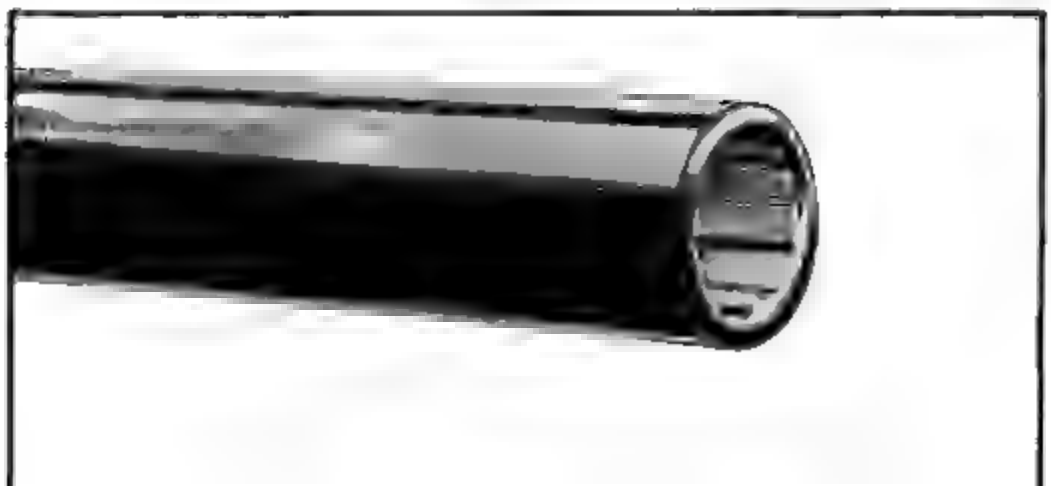
MAMA.. I WANNA GO BACK HOME AND PLAY WITH RON.

LOOK RIGHT, THEN LEFT, THEN ONCE MORE RIGHT...

BOOOO ...

IS AIMING AT MR POLICEMAN?
THAT PERSON

AHHH



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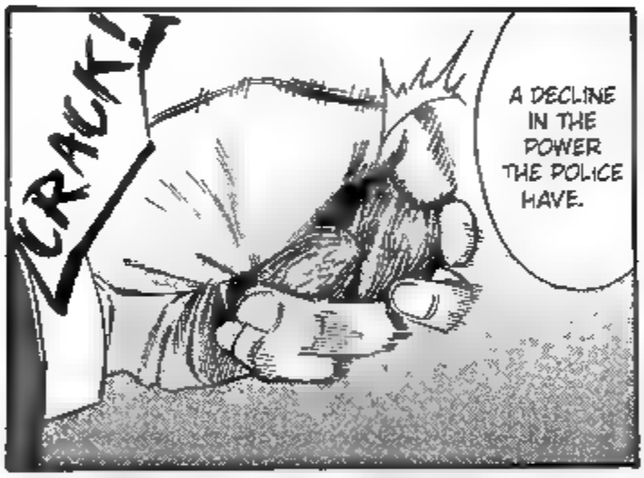
I judge the Police

## Second Part

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE POLICE AS THEY ARE TODAY?
THE QUESTION THAT PERSISTS IS


CRACK!
A DECLINE IN THE POWER THE POLICE HAVE.

DEPUTY SUPER-INTENDENT GENERAL
ONLY 544,699 ARRESTS ARE RE-PORTED.
FOR A TOTAL OF 1,703,044 ACKNOWL-EDGED CRIMINAL OFFENCES,

THE POLICE ARE GOING TO CHANGE START-ING NOW.
T-THIS PERSON. IS SCARY .
!

WHETHER THIS S A HIGH OR LOW RATE... WELL, THERE ARE VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW ON THE MATTER, BUT
IN SHORT, OUT OF TEN CRIMINALS, ONLY THREE ARE ARRESTED, AND THAT'S THE CURRENT SITUATION, RIGHT?

I... I AM DEEPLY SORRY, SIR, BUT WELL...

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF AN INTERVIEW, YOU IDIOT!

THIS... THIS IS SERI-OUS!!

WHAT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT...

HAS... HE HAS BEEN SNIPED!!

SU-SUPER-INTEN-DENT GENERAL KITA-GAWA

SFX: trouble trouble

CRACK CRACK CRACK

SHIT

WHAT... DID YOU JUST SAY?

CRUNCH!

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL OF THE MPD
SUPERINTENDENT SUPERVISOR
HIJIRI YUKITO
(NICKNAME: VICE-GENERAL)

At 10:18 a.m. the director
of the Tokyo MPD of the National
Police Agency of Japan,

Superintendent General
Kitagawa Kiichirou, was sniped...

WHERE HE WAS ATTENDING A TRAFFIC SECURITY CAMPAIGN EVENT FOR THIS YEAR'S NEW STUDENTS

SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL K.TAGAWA WAS SNIPED AT KIY-OMIZAWA ELEMEN-TARY SCHOOL AT SH.BUYA WARD, TOKYO,

HE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO A HOSPITAL AT SENDAGI THAT IS AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

SUPERINTENDENT KITAGAWA IS UNCONSCIOUS AND IN A CRITICAL STATE DUE TO A HAEMORRHAGIC SHOCK

NOTHING HAS BEEN MADE PUBLIC YET ABOUT SUSPECTS, NOR HAVE ANY DETAILS REGARDING H.S CURRENT CONDITION.

THE PARTICULARS OF THIS CASE, AS WELL AS THE MOTIVATIONS BEHIND IT, ARE NOT CLEAR REPEATING...

ARE YOU TRACKING DOWN THE PERPETRATOR, WHO FLED!?

NO PRESS CONFERENCE YET!?

WHAT'S THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL'S CONDITION?

SFX: jostle!

Double?

... LOOK AT THAT. THIS IS GOING TO BE A DOUBLE SCANDAL.

THE FACT IS.. THAT IF THE SNIPER HAD WANTED, HE COULD HAVE MADE ALL THE CHILDREN AT THE SCENE INTO TARGETS.

AND THERE'S MORE ..

YEAH FIRST OFF, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE THE SECURITY POLICE, THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL'S ESCORT FAILED TO PROTECT HIM IN FRONT OF EVERYONE

TS/N: That sounds like a waste of precious bullets, Bando-san...

DON'T PUSH!

WAI... OUCH!

WE'RE GOING TO THE NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY!

AND WE'RE GOING TO ARREST YOU FOR OBSTRUCTING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS!

Damn... those people really are trash!!

APART FROM THE USUAL REPORTERS WHO COVER THE POLICE, ALL MASS MEDIA BASTARDS ARE GATHERING OUT THERE.

くわっ!

SFX: gasp!

MPD PERSONNEL AND TRAINING BUREAU, HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION ASSISTANT INSPECTOR TAMURA KONATSU

Seriously... as if the police weren't under enough criticism nowadays.

With this, it's only going to get worse...

TS/N: Konatsu's intro card? Yeah, sure. Like we can forget about this crazy-ass bitch.

Aaaaah, you are just playing Mr. Nice Guy by saying that, aren't you, Bando-san?

SHIT, KONATSU, HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH IDLE THINGS AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

SFX: sulking

It could have been worse, at least it was the Superintendent General and not my dear Chief Superintendent Hibino the one who was shot...

.....

Since the Superintendent General was sniped, one cannot blame them, but...

YOU CANNOT JUST TAKE IT EASY LIKE THAT, BANDO-SAN.

!

SFX: step!

SINCE I AM JUST AN OLD TIMER WAITING FOR RETIRE-MENT, THAT'S THE KIND OF THING I'M SUPPOSED TO SAY!

IDIOT!

MPD FIRST INVESTIGATION DIVISION INSPECTOR BANDO SHIRO

SFX: grin

SFX: step, step

CALL ME "SUPERINTENDENT TACHIBANA", PLEASE.

TELL ME ABOUT UNFATHOMABLE EXPRESSIONS

SAYING SUCH HARSH THINGS WITH THAT LOVELY FACE, TOMIKO...

TOMIKO ...

WE ARE LEADING THE INVESTIGATION TEAM.

JURISDICTION OVER THE SNIPING OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL LIES WITH THE SHIBUYA HILL STATION, WHERE A SPECIAL INVESTIGATION HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN SET UP.

MPD FIRST INVESTIGATION DIVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SUPERINTENDENT TACHIBANA TOMIKO

THIS IS AN ORDER.

I HAVE ENOUGH SHIT ON MY SIDE WITHOUT HAVING TO PLAY DETECTIVE WITH THOSE BIG-SHOTS!!

HEY, ARE YOU KIDDING!?

AND YOU, BANDO-SAN, WILL JOIN ME AND THE REST OF THE 11TH TEAM THERE.

... THAT KID...

I'm so busy I think I'll die!!

SFX: pat!

My condolences, Bando-san

SHIT... MY STOMACH WOUND IS.

SFX: dash!

I'm sorry!! I have a report to turn in asap!!

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A LOT OF FREE TIME

IF YOU ARE NOT DOING ANYTHING, DON'T YOU WANT TO SERVE TEA AT THE INVESTIGATION HEADQUARTERS?

WHO KNOWS... THERE ARE LOADS OF PEOPLE WHO BEAR GRUDGES AGAINST THE POLICE, AFTER ALL.

STILL ...

WHO THE HELL IS OUR AUDACIOUS CRIMINAL...?

THE CRIMINAL IS PROBABLY QUITE THE PROFICIENT ASSASSIN.

I CAN ONLY SAY ONE THING, TO PULL OFF SNIPING THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS AND ESCAPING THE CRIME SCENE LIKE THAT REQUIRES EXTRAORDINARY SKILL.

AS FAR AS CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS ARE CONCERNED, HE SITS AT THE CENTRE OF THE WHOLE JAPANESE POLICE SYSTEM.

IT'S NOT JUST THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL IS AT THE TOP OF THE MPD HIERARCHY.

...

WE WILL ARREST THE PERPETRATOR, WITHOUT FAIL

SFX: step step

YEAH . I AGREE...

WE MUST APPREHEND THE CULPRIT AT ALL COSTS!!

THIS IS ALSO A MATTER OF SAFEGUARDING THE HONOUR OF THE POLICE.

PLEASE ACCOMPANY HER TO THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION HEADQUARTERS.

BANDO-SAN,

GOOD JOB

SUPERINTENDENT TACHIBANA! I'VE BROUGHT THE FILES CONCERNING SNIPING CASES FROM THE PAST 20 YEARS.

SFX: thud!

OR SHE WILL MANAGE TO EVOLVE INTO AN EXCELLENT FIRST DIVISION INVESTIGATOR. IT IS UP TO HER.

WITH HER SECOND-GENERATION MINDSET, SHE WILL EITHER KEEP ON LIVING LIKE A SPOILT CHILD...

AS PER BANDO-SAN'S REQUEST, THIS MONTH I FORCED THE FIRST DIVISION'S MANUAL INTO HER HEAD.

I MUST SAY. .

DURING THIS MONTH, I TAKE IT TOMIKO PUT YOU THROUGH THE MILL AND YOU'RE NOT SO MUCH OF A GREENHORN ANY LONGER?

IN THE PERIOD I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU, HAVEN'T YOUR EYES BECOME A LITTLE LIKE THOSE OF A FIRST DIVISION DETECTIVE?

.....

THANK YOU, TOMIKO.

DON'T TREAT ME AS A CHILD, PLEASE.

MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION ASSISTANT INSPECTOR HIBINO MIDUKI

Q: What do you think of today's police?

HEY, WHOM ARE YOU ASKING ANYWAY?

THE POLICE? WHAT'S THERE TO LIKE ABOUT THEM?

SOCIETY IS GETTING LESS AND LESS SAFE...

THEY ARE A COMPLETE FAILURE, AREN'T THEY?

I THINK THAT THE CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE COULD HAVE BEEN WOUNDED LIKE THAT IT'S FRIGHTENING

THAT SUPERINTENDENT OR WHATEVER HE WAS HAVE THEY CAUGHT THE SHOOTER YET? THEY HAVEN'T RIGHT?

ON THE CONTRARY RECENTLY TOO MANY CRIMES HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY POLICE OFFICERS

NUWA-AIS

WHEN I WAS YOUNG, THE POLICE WERE STRONG

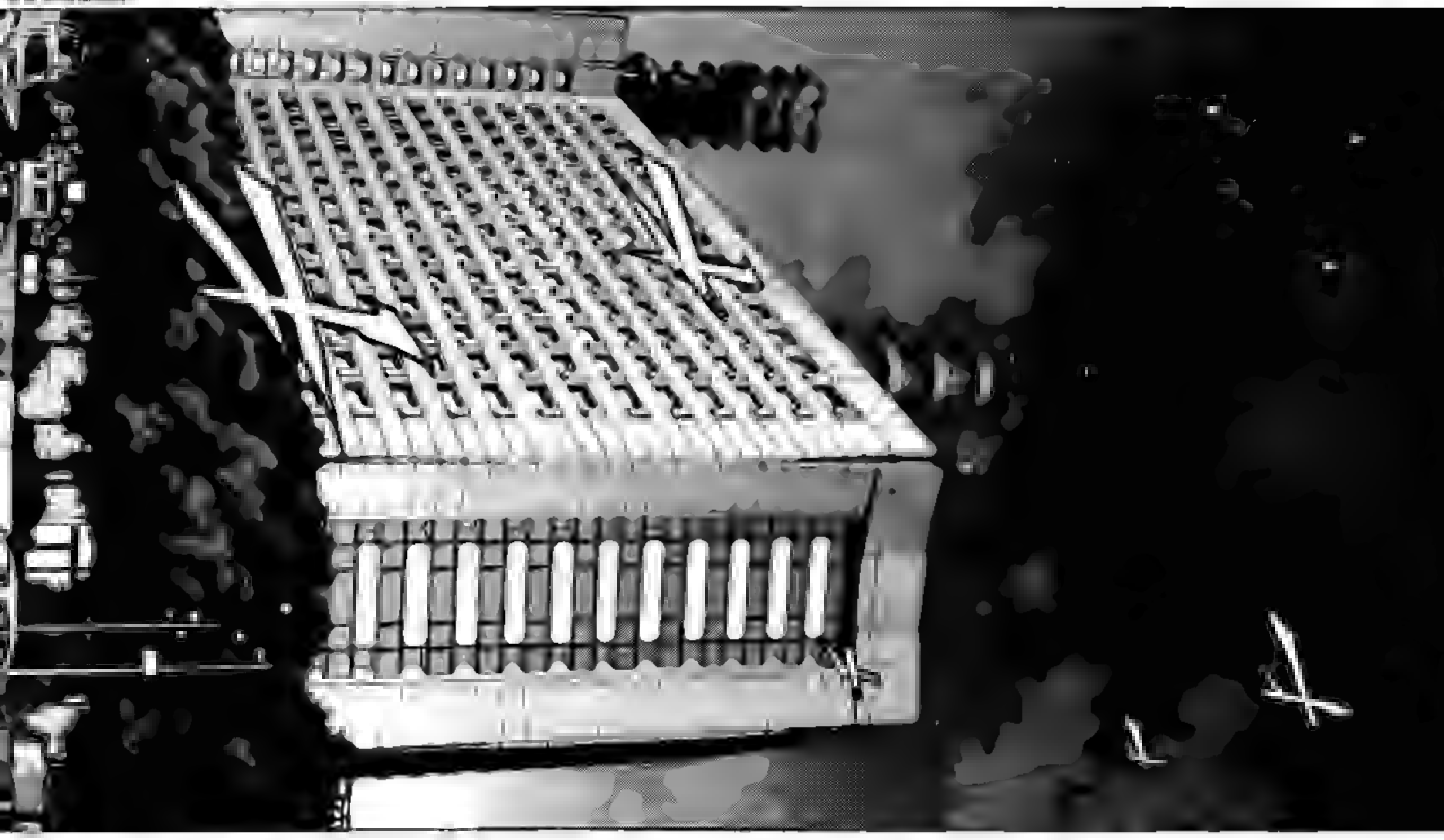
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR

HONESTLY, AS ADULTS, HAVE THEY NO SHAME?

THE POLICE ARE WEAK!

THEIR TOP OFFICER WAS SHOT, WASN'T HE?

TS/N: That, coming from a schoolgirl, must have hurt.



THE MAJOR FAILURE THIS TIME HAS BEEN MET WITH PROTESTS NOT ONLY FROM THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION BUT FROM THE EDUCATION COMMISSION AS WELL!!

WHAT'S SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL KITAGAWA'S CONDITION?

THE CRIMINAL FLED! WHO IS RESPONSIBLE...

ANSWER OUR QUESTIONS, PLEASE, DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL!!

HE IS CURRENTLY UNCONSCIOUS AND IN A CRITICAL STATE, BUT HIS LIFE IS NOT IN DANGER.

THE BULLET SHOT BY THE CRIMINAL PERFORATED SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL KITAGAWA'S LEFT CHEST AND PASSED A FEW CENTIMETRES TO THE RIGHT OF THE HEART.

AND HEREBY I ALSO WANT TO CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO ALL PUBLIC CURRENTLY WATCHING.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN FROM THE PRESS CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB!

CRACK CRACK

CRACK!

SFX: murmur

!!

SFX. crack

WE WILL INTRODUCE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE POLICE SYSTEM.

STARTING NOW,

WE, THE POLICE, HAVE CARRIED THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY PLACED UPON US, AND CROSSED THIS HALF-CENTURY STRIVING TO LIVE UP TO THAT COMMAND, TO THE POINT THAT WE HAVE BECOME WORLD LEADERS IN THE PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC ORDER

THE CURRENT LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM TOOK SHAPE AFTER THE WAR. THE SECOND ARTICLE OF THE POLICE CODE COMMANDS US TO "PROTECT THE LIFE AND PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OF CITIZENS, AS WELL AS THEIR PROPERTY"

THE SO-CALLED "SAFETY MYTH" BECAME ESTABLISHED IN THE PUBLIC DISCOURSE

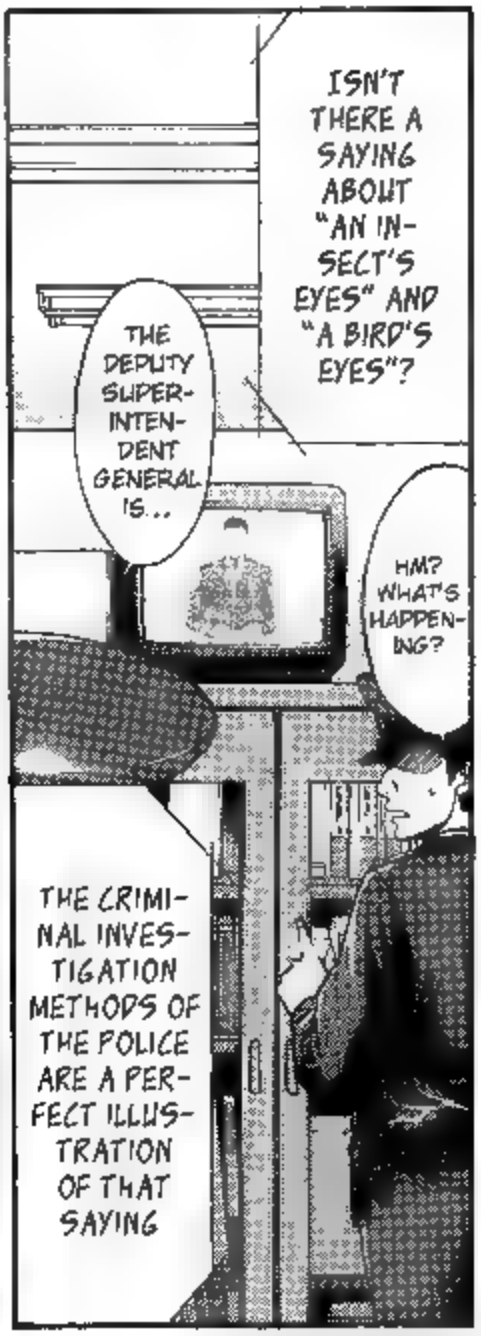
IN THE 50 YEARS FOLLOWING THE WAR, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY APPRAISED PUBLIC SAFETY IN JAPAN AS THE BEST IN THE WORLD

WITH THE CONTINUED DETERIORATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY IT IS NO LONGER AN EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT THE DAYS OF THE "SAFETY MYTH" ARE NUMBERED

HOWEVER AS WE ENTERED THE 21ST CENTURY, THE ARREST RATE DECREASED SHARPLY AS A RESULT OF THE DIVERSIFICATION OF CRIME

TS/N: Japan becomes a police state in 3... 2... 1...

AND THEN WE HAVE INVESTI-GATIONS THAT ADOPT A COM-PREHENSIVE APPROACH AND LOOK AT CASES FROM ON HIGH AS A BIRD WOULD. THEY FOLLOW THE "BIRD'S EYE" METHOD
INVESTIGA-TIONS THAT CRAWL AROUND LIKE AN INSECT FOLLOW THE "INSECT'S EYE" AP-PROACH


ISN'T THERE A SAYING ABOUT "AN IN-SECT'S EYES" AND "A BIRD'S EYES"?
THE DEPUTY SUPER-INTEN-DENT GENERAL IS...
HM? WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?
THE CRIMI-NAL INVES-TIGATION METHODS OF THE POLICE ARE A PER-FECT ILLUS-TRATION OF THAT SAYING

TL/N: This saying, which also includes "fish's eyes", bears some resemblance to the proverbial comparison between seeing the trees or seeing the forest.

TO FOLLOW THE EVOLUTION OF CRIME WE, THE POLICE, MUST ALSO EVOLVE

WE MUST CHANGE INTO A "THIRD EYE" THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WE HAVE PRACTISED UNTIL NOW

THE THIRD EYE THAT WILL THOROUGHLY EXPOSE CRIMES THAT ARE INVISIBLE TO THE "INSECT EYE" AND THE "BIRD EYE" IS, SO TO SPEAK,

WE MUST POSSESS MORE MEANS TO ENFORCE OUR AUTHORITY THAN HAS BEEN HITHERTO THE CASE."

"THE EYE OF GOD."

THAT BEING SAID, I ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING WORDS TO THE PERPETRATOR.

!

SFX. Rise

HEY HEY!

THE POLICE AS GOD. FOR REAL!?

SFX. scrape

THE MOMENT YOU TARGETED THE LIFE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL,

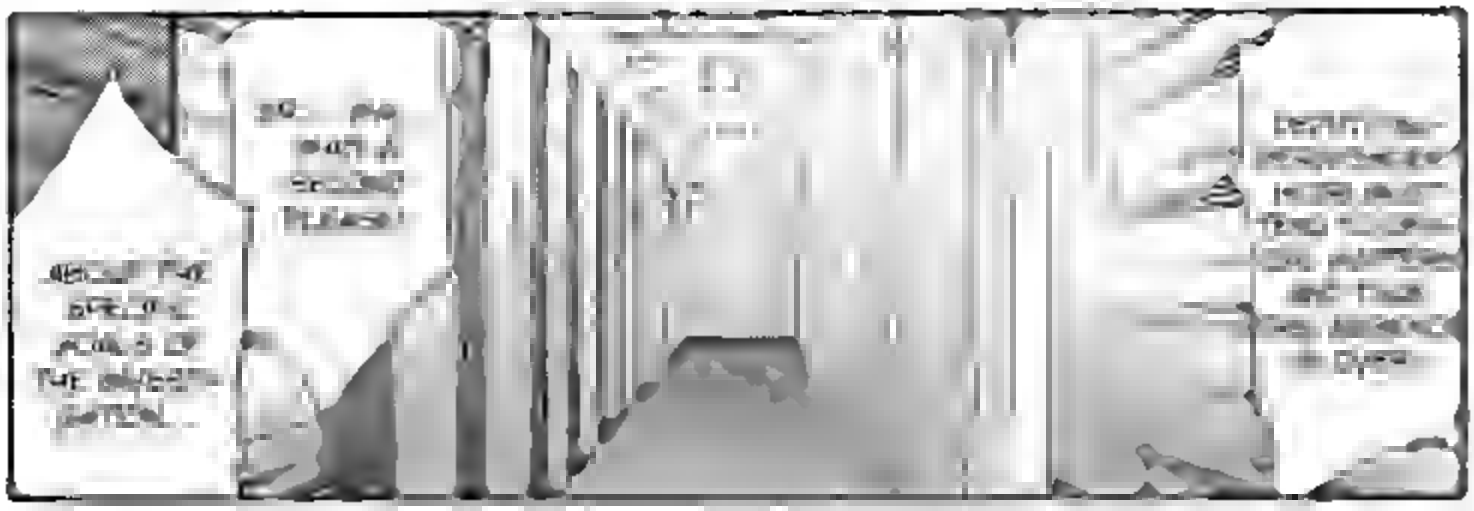
YOU BECAME AN ENEMY OF THIS COUNTRY'S CONSTITUTED POWERS.

NO MATTER WHAT MEANS WE HAVE TO EMPLOY,

WE WILL, WITHOUT FAIL, PUT OUR HANDS ON YOU, BASTARD!

There are 291,475 police officers in 1,184 stations in the whole country

And you, fucker, have made enemies of them all!!



SFX: slip

YOU INTEND TO TURN THE POLICE INTO AN ARMY, DON'T YOU, DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL HIJIRI?

THE NICKNAME "VICE-GENERAL" DOES HIM JUSTICE...

MPD PERSONNEL AND
TRAINING BUREAU, INSPECTION
OFFICE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
HIBINO KUNIHIKO

SFX: "vroom" to the left, honk honk to the right

TELL THE SUPPLIERS UNLESS THEY CAN PROVIDE THEM THEY WILL BE BROUGHT HERE ON CHARGES OF OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE!
NOT ENOUGH CUSHIONS!? YOU IDIOT!
SUMMON ALL IDLE PERSONNEL FROM TRAFFIC, COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, LOCAL SAFETY AND WHEREVER YOU CAN FIND THEM!
JUST THE PERSONNEL FROM CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND PUBLIC SECURITY WON'T BE ENOUGH!

SFX: quick walking

THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST DIVISION ARE ARRIVING!!
SEE TO IT THAT THE FIRST DIVISION INVESTIGATORS FROM CENTRAL ARE PROPERLY ATTENDED TO! ALL MEMBERS OF THE INVESTIGATION PURSUE IT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!!
YES, SIR!!
THIS IS THE BIGGEST CASE SHIBUYA HILL STATION HAS EVER HAD!

TL/N: The hell? Either they are going to investigate around the clock and thus are ordering cushions for people to sleep in shifts, or maybe they mean sitting cushions?

TS/N: Silly Wraith; the cushions are clearly for a pillow fort!

TOKYO MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU,
FIRST DIVISION ELEVENTH TEAM

SFX: tchaan!

IF MEMORY SERVES, WASN'T HIS SUSPENSION GOING TO BE OVER AROUND TODAY?

AAAAH... HE...

YES?

HMM... BANDO-SAN.

HEHEHE... SERIOUSLY, THAT BAS-TARD IS REALLY FUNNY.

AH, YES, I SEE...

TS/N: Why are these two playing the pronoun game?

THAT FELLOW... WHERE IS HE NOW...?

AND WAS SUSPENDED FOR ONE MONTH AS A CONSEQUENCE.

WHILE ON PATROL, HE CRASHED INTO THE REAR END OF A CAR THAT BELONGED TO THE GRANDMA OF THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR WHO CURRENTLY SITS IN THE BOARD OF THE POLICE WATCHDOG AGENCY, THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION.

*FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A MONTH...*

SFX: step step step

NOT REALLY... RATHER, IT HAS BEEN QUIET AND SOMEWHAT AGREEABLE DURING HIS ABSENCE.

YOU TOO MUST HAVE FELT LONELY WITHOUT YOUR PARTNER DURING THIS PERIOD, RIGHT, HIBINO?

SFX: running

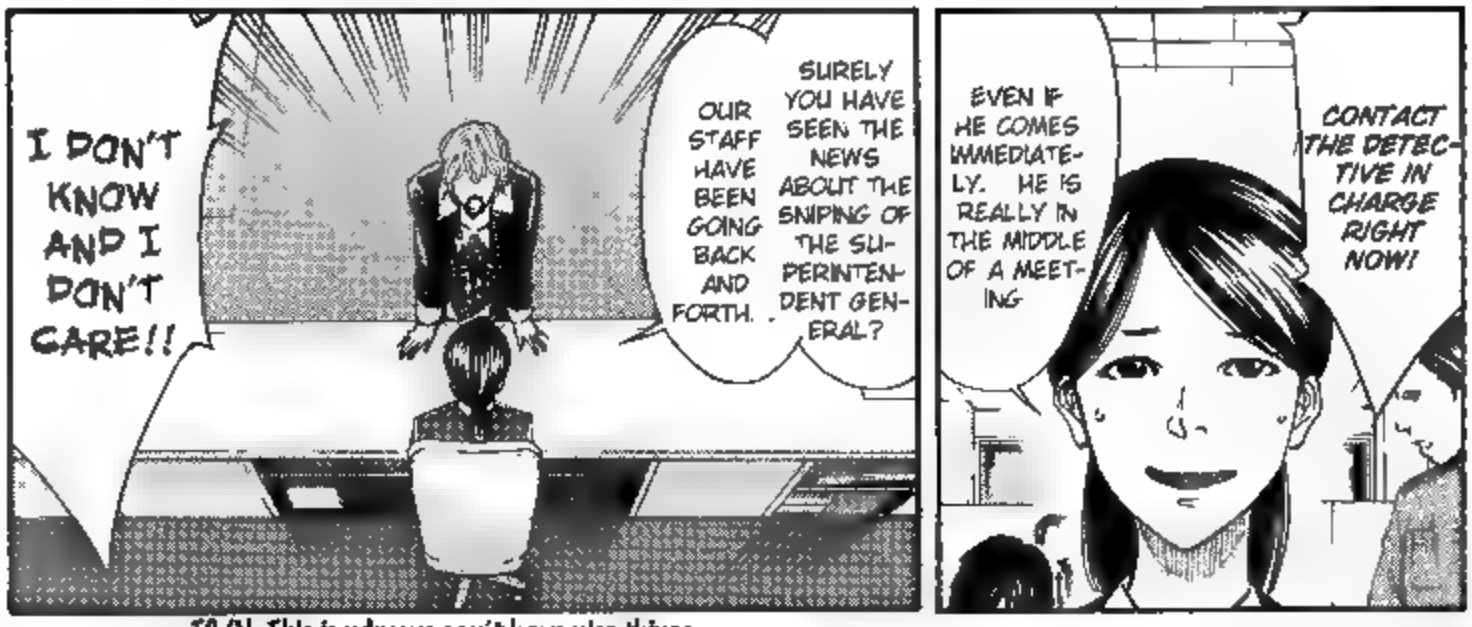
HAA

HAA

HAA

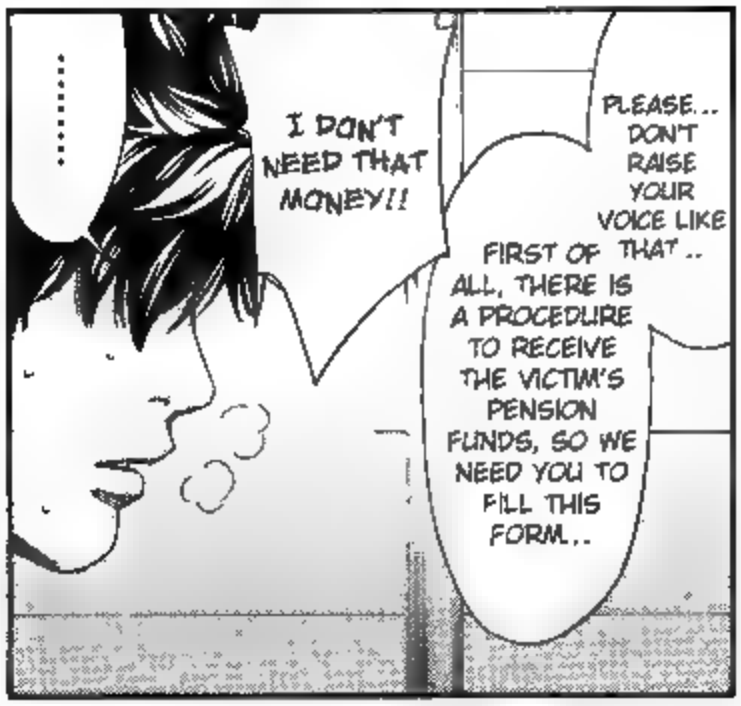
HAA

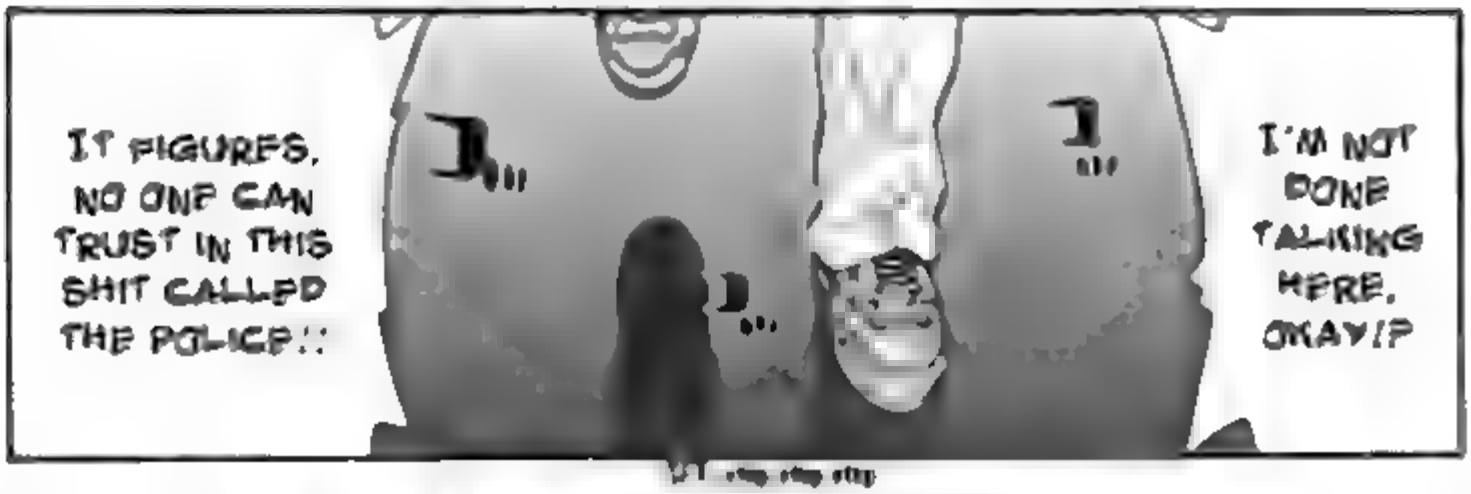
SFX: rustling


I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE!!
OUR STAFF HAVE BEEN GOING BACK AND FORTH.
SURELY YOU HAVE SEEN THE NEWS ABOUT THE SNIPING OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL?
EVEN IF HE COMES IMMEDIATELY. HE IS REALLY IN THE MIDDLE OF A MEETING
CONTACT THE DETECTIVE IN CHARGE RIGHT NOW!

TS/N. This is why we can't have nice things.

YOU ARE SAYING THE LIFE OF A SEX INDUSTRY WORKER AND THE LIFE OF A SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL HAVE DIFFERENT VALUES, AREN'T YOU!?
GO ON, SAY IT!
IS THIS BECAUSE MY OLDER SISTER WORKED FOR THE SEX INDUSTRY, IS THAT IT!?


.....
I DON'T NEED THAT MONEY!!
PLEASE... DON'T RAISE YOUR VOICE LIKE THAT..
FIRST OF ALL, THERE IS A PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE THE VICTIM'S PENSION FUNDS, SO WE NEED YOU TO FILL THIS FORM..


IT FIGURES. NO ONE CAN TRUST IN THIS SHIT CALLED THE POLICE!!
I'M NOT DONE TALKING HERE. OKAY!?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING BASTARD

OKAY YOU

POLICE
警視庁

I ALSO HATE THE POLICE.

STILL,

I WENT AND BECAME A POLICE OFFICER.

MPD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION (TEMPORARY DISPATCH) SERGEANT RYUUZAKI IKKO

SHINJUKU
KFRA

IT WILL BE A PAIN IF THE COPS COME TO MATSUO'S PREMISES WITH A SEARCH WARRANT

FOR NOW YOU AREN'T CARRYING GUNS AROUND, UNDER-STOOD?

THE SUPERIN-TENDENT GENERAL WAS SHOT?

THE BULLET WASN'T FROM OUR ORGANIZA-TION.

I SAID I AM GOING OUT ALONE.

SFX: twitch

SFX: step step

I'M SURE IT'S A WOMAN!

THE VICE-HEAD SURE IS BUSY

S... EXCUSE US! PLEASE TAKE CARE, SIR!!

HEY, DOESN'T ANYONE HERE KNOW HER?

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF WOMAN HE IS DATING?

THE VICE-HEAD IS ABSURDLY POPULAR WITH THE LADIES..

... THE CRIME SCENE IS THE MOTEL "HAPPINESS" AT SHIBUYA HILL.

TO CREATE MORE PEOPLE WHO HATE THE POLICE.
BESIDES, I DON'T WANT

YOU ARE SUCH A PAIN.
THAT'S WHY I CANNOT LEAVE THIS BE.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED... I'LL LEND YOU A HAND.

WHO SHARE THE SAME BODY AND SOUL!

AFTER ALL, WE ARE THE TWIN DRAGONS, OUROBOROS.

ouroboros

ouroboros

ouroboros

RYUZAKI-SAN!?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING,

I'M SORRY... PLEASE HOLD HIM OFF JUST A LITTLE LONGER, HIBINO-SAN!

tic

tac

BANDOU-SAN HAS BEEN ASKING "WHERE IS RYUZAK.?", YOU KNOW

SFX: shiver shiver shiver

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO...

E-NOUGH OF THAT!

BEEP

AH, HEY, JUST A SEC...

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT WE OF TEAM 11 ARE CHARGED WITH THE INVESTIGATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL'S SNIPING?

AH, NO SOMETHING HAPPENED I AM INVESTIGATING THIS CALL GIRL'S MURDER AND

YOU CAN JUST LEAVE THAT OTHER CASE TO THE STATION THAT HAS JURISDICTION AND ALL WILL BE FINE!

... SHE IS NOT HOME YET...

SFX: brr x5

印

第2話

CHAPTER 71: SEAL

I... AM...

Beware of stalker!!

FREEZ-ING!!

THERE HAVE BEEN TWO CALL GIRL MURDER CASES IN SHIBUYA.

WHERE HAVE YOU DISAPPEARED TO, KAON-CHAN?

SFX: shiver

THE VICTIM DIED OF TRAUMATIC SHOCK CAUSED BY REPEATED BASHING

THE CRIME OCCURRED IN A MOTEL IN DOUGEN-ZAKA.

THE FIRST ONE HAPPENED ABOUT ONE MONTH AGO

SFX: clatter

TL/N: In the previous chapter it said "last month". I've checked. This was a mistake by the author.

I HAVE TO GO NOW.

.. IF ANYTHING, WHY DOES THE CRIMINAL ONLY TARGET CALL GIRLS...

SHE IS YOUR OLDER SISTER... RIGHT, KAON-CHAN?

THE VICTIM WAS IIDA SHION.

AND THEN LAST WEEK THE SECOND CASE HAPPENED IN A MOTEL NEARBY

!

I AM ALSO A CALL GIRL, DON'T YOU KNOW?

I HAVE WORK NOW

IN ANY CASE, I DON'T EXPECT ANYTHING FROM THE POLICE IN-VESTIGATION.

!

YOU THINK YOU CAN CATCH THE CRIMINAL BY YOURSELF?

PER-HAPS...

IT'S IM-POSSIBLE FOR AN AMATEUR TO CATCH A CRIMI-NAL IN THE FIRST PLACE...

AH!

DON'T TELL ME YOU BE-CAME A CALL GIRL WITH THAT GOAL?

YOU MUST NOT PUT YOUR-SELF IN THAT KIND OF DANGER!

SFX: show

!

ズッ

A SCAR?

THERE IS.

SOMETHING DRAWN ON THAT HAND?

WHAT... IS THAT PICTURE?

IT'S THAT CHARACTER WHO IS VERY POPULAR WITH YOUNG GIRLS, THE SO-CALLED "KUMA-TAN"...

AH!

!!

I RECEIVED THIS PICTURE ATTACHED TO AN EMAIL SIS SENT ME.. THE DATE

IS THE DAY SHE WAS MURDERED.

THIS MAN IS THE CRIMINAL!

THIS PERSON WITH A SCAR ON THEIR HAND, CAPTURED IN THIS PICTURE,

BUT THAT ...

IN ANY CASE YOU PEOPLE PROBABLY THINK THAT CALL GIRLS ARE JUST GETTING THEIR JUST DESERTS IF THEY ARE MURDERED.

AND IN ANY CASE, THOSE POLICE BASTARDS ARE TOO BUSY WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT CASE OR WHATEVER.

Y-YOU HAVE TO SHOW THAT CTURE THE LICE..

THIS DOESN'T CONSTITUTE POWERFUL EVIDENCE.

SFX: shut!

MY BIG SIS WAS THE ONLY PERSON I HAD IN THIS WORLD!

HOWEVER, TO ME,

BEEEEEP

I UNDER-STAND . WELL, I'LL GO WITH YOU...

SFX: grumble grumble

THE MEETING STARTED LONG AGO! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING...

HEY! RYUZAKI-SAN!!

HELLO-

SFX: turn turn

HUH? WHERE'S KAON-CHAN?

SFX: fidgeting

WA- WAIT A SEC, NOW I AM IN THE MIDDLE OF AN IMPORTANT THING

TS/N: She pulled a Batman...

IT SEEMS SHE HASN'T APPEARED AT HER WORK-PLACE WHERE THE HECK IS SHE?

SHE HASN'T RETURNED TO HER OWN HOUSE, EITHER.

THE NUMBER YOU HAVE DIALLED, IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE OR

IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE KAON-CHAN'S ALSO NOT ANSWERING HER PHONE

MY WATCH IS REACHING ITS LIMITS TOO...

.....

IF WE CAN HUNT HIM DOWN!!!

THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, BEFORE KAON-CHAN FINDS THE CRIMINAL

SNIFF

ATCHOO!!

SFX: Jolt!

I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, TAT-CHAN!!

AH
AAH!

AAAAAH
AVE
SOME

I can't have enough of this!!

Wooo
oooW
...

HAVE SOME RICE.

Here, look.

DANNO-SAN!

!

IT'S A PROBLEM IF YOU GET ADDICTED TO WATCHING, YOU KNOW.

(3,

SFX: turn

BE-SIDES,

IT'S OKAY!

IF I DO IT JUST A LITTLE LONGER, AND SINCE I WILL BE UNABLE TO SEE ANYWAY, I MUST MAKE THE MOST OF WHAT I CAN SEE NOW, RIGHT?

IS THAT... KERATOCO-NUS? YOU SHOULD TAKE IT EASY, DON'T YOU THINK? YOUR EYES WILL GO BUST IN NO TIME...

SURELY I COULDN'T HELP GET-TING CAR-RIED AWAY BY IT, COULD I?

SINCE YOU ASKED ME TO DO THIS HUGE JOB, DANNO-SAN,

WITHIN FIVE KILOMETRES OF THE SHIBUYA TRAIN STATION!

I HAVE SET UP HIDDEN CAMERAS IN ALL MOTEL ROOMS

EYES ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO BLAB, ARE THEY?

SFX: slap

!! !!

EXCUSE ME...

!! ... EX-

IKUO IS NOTHING BUT TROUBLE...

TSK!

EVEN THOUGH HE SAYS HE WANTS TO FERRET GOLD WATCH OUT, THIS LOW-PROFILE CASE IS.

WITH THIS LAST INTEL JUST MISSING—
I LAY MY HANDS ON SOME INTERESTING INTEL, AFTER ALL!

THIS FELLOW—

IT THIS YOUR FIRST TIME WITH A CALL GIRL, MR CUSTOMER?

THANKS.

HAHA...

... I AM EMBARRASSED, YOU KNOW.

BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

NAH, IT'S JUST THAT YOU LOOK LIKE A GOOD, HONEST PERSON.

TS/N: So... Good people don't eat hookers?

I WAS LUCKY, THOUGH.

THIS FELLOW DOESN'T SEEM TO BE THE TYPE...

A SERIAL KILLER OF CALL GIRLS...

TO THINK THAT THE FIRST GIRL I CALLED WOULD BE AS CUTE AS YOU...

I'M GOING TO TAKE A SHOWER FIRST!

NO, IT'S NOTHING!

HM? WHAT'S WRONG? I'M SORRY, DID I DO SOME-THING..

THERE'S NO MARK...

AND ON HIS HAND...

TL/N: How weird-sounding for me, although I suppose it's common knowledge among English-native speakers. "Foundation" is the name given to skin-coloured cosmetic creams used to cover undesired features of one's skin, among other things.

RL/N: Just think of it as make-up, one of the first in a 10 or so steps process for ladies.

IS THAT... FOUNDATION?

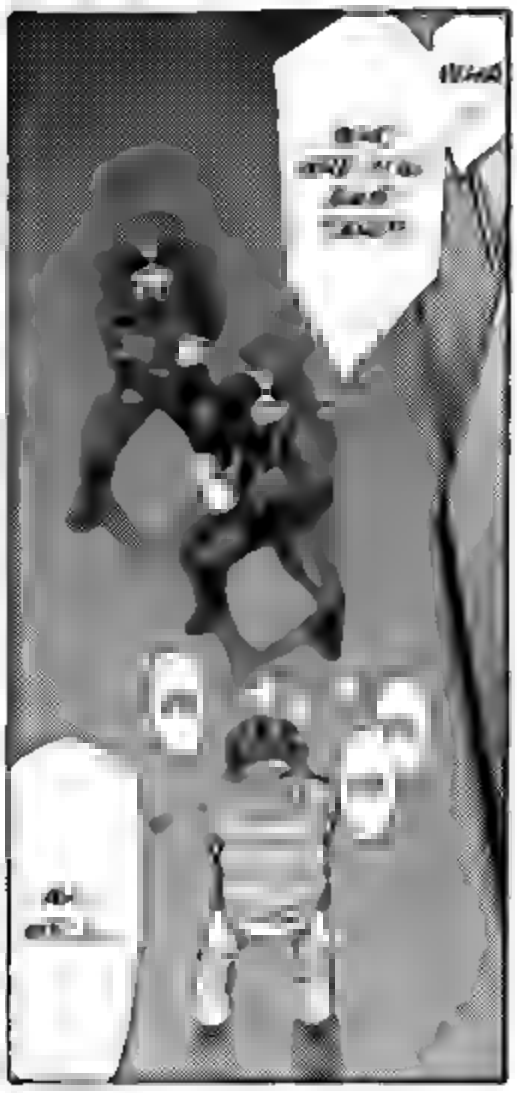
BUT...

IS IT OKAY TO CONTINUE DOING THIS UNTIL WHO KNOWS WHEN, I WONDER...

I HAVE TO TAKE REVENGE ON THE MAN WHO DID THAT TO SIS!!

AH!!
AH!!
AH!!
AH!!
AH!!
AH!!

EH? AH... FORGIVE US!!


WHAT

KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN IN THE HOSPITAL!

SHE HAS SUFFERED FRACTURES FROM MULTIPLE BLOWS... SHE WAS REPEATEDLY HIT ALL OVER HER BODY AND PRETTY MUCH TOSSED AROUND. SHE IS IN A FAIRLY SERIOUS CONDITION.

DOCTOR! WHAT IS KAON-CHAN'S CONDI-TION!?

NO... NO WAY...

Puff-

Puff-

Puff-

WITHOUT FAIL, SHE WOULD HAVE DIED IF SHE HAD BEEN FOUND LATER.

IT'S PRETTY GRUE-SOME...

BECAUSE OF THE SOUND OF THE POLICE CAR SIREN, BY THE TIME WE ARRIVED AT THE CRIME SCENE THE CRIMINAL HAD ALREADY

IT WENT "AT ROOM 302 OF HOTEL RAFF-ESIA, A PERSON SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MUR-DERED"...

!

WHO REPORT-ED THE CRIME...?

THAT... WAS AN ANONY-MOUS REPORT.

!?

TS/N Y know like the peeps with teh Guy Fawkes masks.

!

ANONY-MOUS!?

WHO THE HECK..

THEY SAID THEY ARE BUSY WITH THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION ON THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL'S SNIPING AND BEING HERE WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION

EH!? WENT BACK TO...

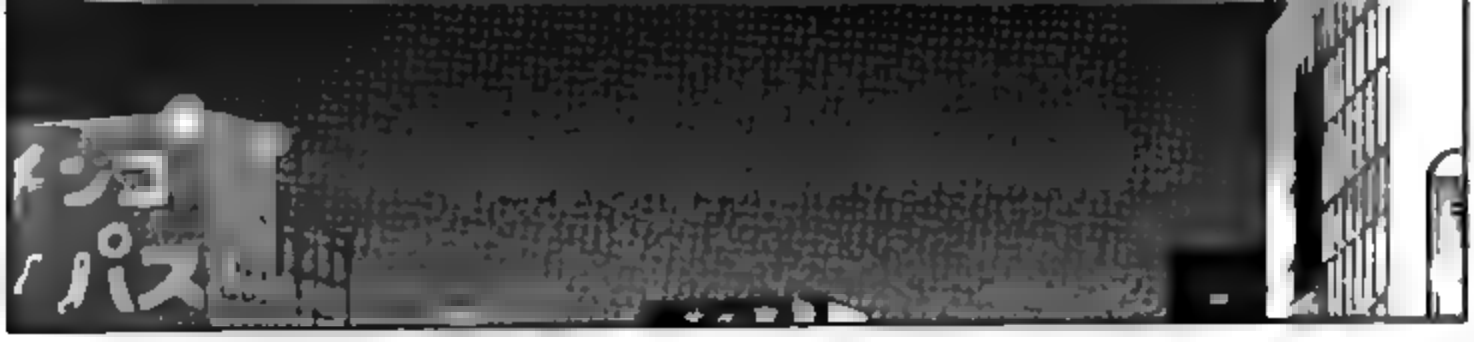
AH, THEY WENT BACK TO THE STATION AS SOON AS THEY COULD

INCIDENTALLY, WHERE ARE THE DETECTIVES WITH JURISDICTION OVER THE CALL GIRL MURDER CASE?

SFX: [illegible] around

"THOSE POLICE BASTARDS ARE TOO BUSY WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT CASE OR WHATEVER."

!!.....


ホンコ
パス

BE GRATEFUL, IKUO.

HE ONLY TARGETS SEX INDUSTRY GIRLS
ABOUT THAT TAT-CHAN. DID YOU SEE THE CRIMINAL'S FACE

HIS MOTIVE IS "REVENGE AGAINST SEX WORKER GIRLS"
THE CRIMINAL USED TO ADMINISTER A HOST CLUB HERE IN SHINJUKU. HIS NAME IS MITSUOMI.

IF I HADN'T REPORTED IT TO THE POLICE, THAT WOMAN WOULD HAVE DIED
.....

HE WAS BACKED BY THE YAMAGUCHI SYNDICATE, TOO.

IN THE HEYDAY OF HIS CLUB, MANY YEARS AGO, HE WAS AN INFLUENTIAL FIGURE IN SHINJUKU.

HAPPENED DUE TO ADVANCE MONEY INVOLVING THE GIRLS.

THE FINISHING BLOW

AFTER THE HOST CLUB BUBBLE BURST, HE GOT INTO SERIOUS TROUBLE WITH HIS BOSSES FROM YAMAGUCHI INVOLVING THE AID MONEY HE PAID THEM WHILE AGGRESSIVELY EXPANDING HIS BUSINESS.

HOWEVER, HE OVERDID IT.

T.L/N. The way it sounds on the original this money is like the "security money" businessmen paid to the mafia to ensure prosperity of their business and protection from the family.

TO INCREASE HIS REVENUE, MITSUOMI SUPPLIED MANY OF HIS HOUSE'S CALL GIRLS WITH ABSURD AMOUNTS OF ADVANCE MONEY.

THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S WITH THE GIRLS THAT HIGH-PROFILE CUSTOMERS REALLY SPEND GREAT SUMS IN HOST CLUBS.

ADVANCE MONEY IS A SYSTEM WHEREBY THE HOUSE TEMPORARILY SHOULDERS THE DRINKING EXPENSES OF CUSTOMERS.

THAT FELLOW PLUNGED FROM THE SPARKLING NIGHTLIFE WORLD INTO ABJECT DARKNESS INSTANTLY.

THE HOURS HE AD-MINISTERED FOLDED BADLY.

WITHOUT HIS REALIZING IT, THOSE GIRLS WERE HIRED BY A RIVAL HOST CLUB... AND AS A RESULT—

I THOUGHT THEY HAD SURELY ALREADY KILLED HIM, BUT... IT SEEMS HE IS STILL ALIVE.

TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, MITSUOMI WENT AS FAR AS STEALING MONEY FROM THE YAKUZA'S SAFE TO SETTLE HIS DEBTS... AND BECAME A MARKED MAN EVER SINCE.

SEE STORY INDEX

SIGH

I WON'T LET HIM DO THAT

THE WAY HE IS NOW HE HAS REACHED THE END OF HIS LIFE EVEN IF HE IS ALIVE HE HAS NO MORE CALLS WITH HIM HAS BECOME HIS SOLE REASON TO LIVE

MITSUOMI WILL KILL AGAIN

メガネセン

UUUH!!

UH... UUH... UUUH...

UGH ...

AAAR GH!!

GYAHAHAHAHA! IF ANY OF YOUR CUSTOMERS SEES THAT, I DON'T THINK YOU WILL EVER BE A FAMOUS HOST AGAIN?

Just a fact.

NOW YOU ARE NO LONGER IN THE YAMASHIRO SYNDICATE, WE DON'T FEAR YOU AT ALL, MITSUOMI-SAN...

TH-THEY CARVED... THIS PATHETIC SCAR ONTO ME!!

AGYAAAH

NEVER SHOW YOUR FACE AGAIN, YOU THIRD-RATE HOST!

GH

GH GH

SFX. click!

SFX. ttttp ttttp ttttp

SHALL WE SAY... THERE WAS A CHANGE OF PLANS?

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!?

WAAAH!

!!

EH ...

Ai

Ai

Ai

TO DELIVER HELL.

EH?

EH??

A-ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME!? HEY!

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT!?

!?

I'LL CHANGE

TH-THEN

I'LL CHANGE PLEASE

I'LL K... HIM!!

WHAA ...!!

AAH, WHATEVER, THEN.

BYE

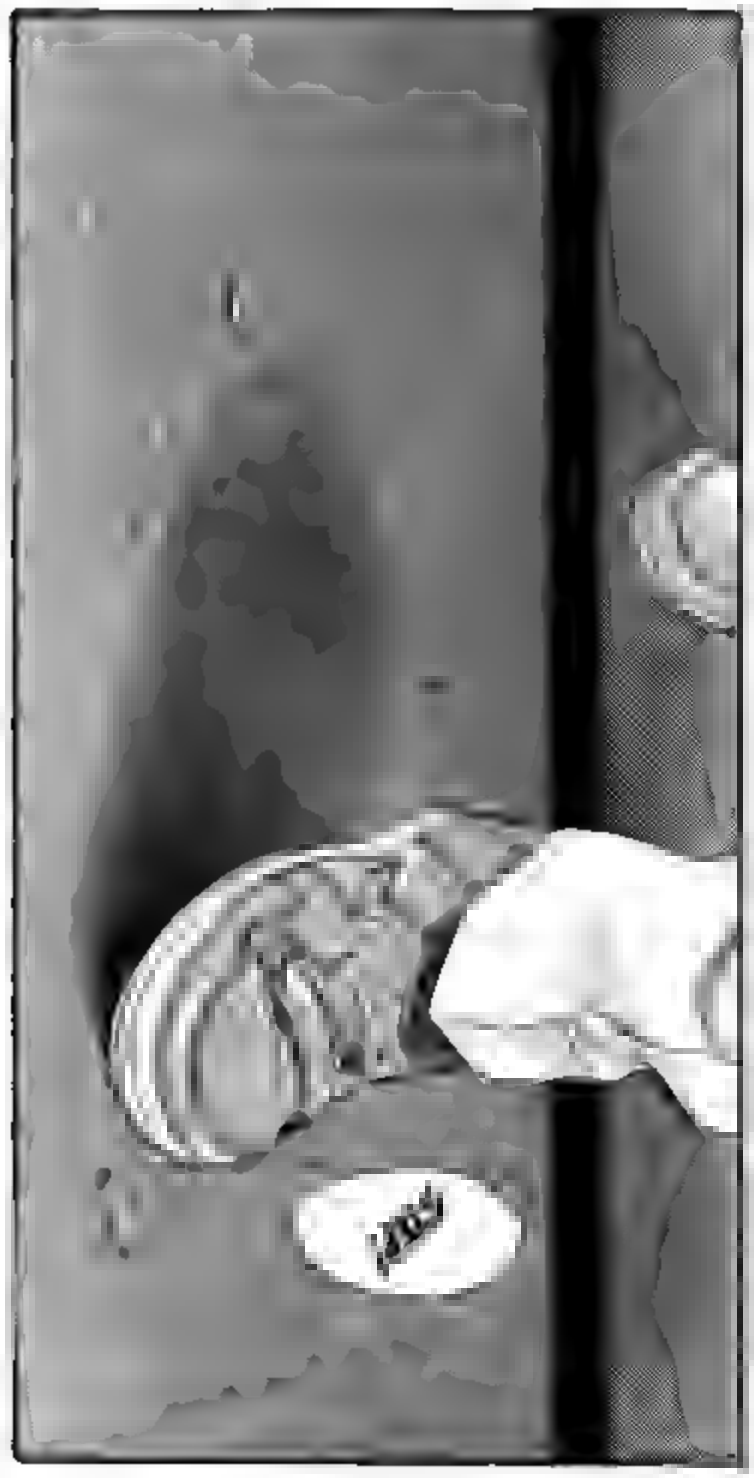
SFX: slip

I'LL KILL YOU, YOU GULLIBLE FOOL!!

SFX: slick!

YOU SHOULD SEE THE *OTHER* DRAGON.

IF YOU THINK I AM SCARY,


PAM!

BANG!

THE BLOOD... THE BLOOD WON'T STOP!!

AAAAAAH!

IT HURTS

WHAT ARE YOU?

I GET

YOU ARE

SFX: throbl
THE POLICE... RIGHT!?
!?

SIS...

SIS...

SFX: opening eyes

!

SFX. running

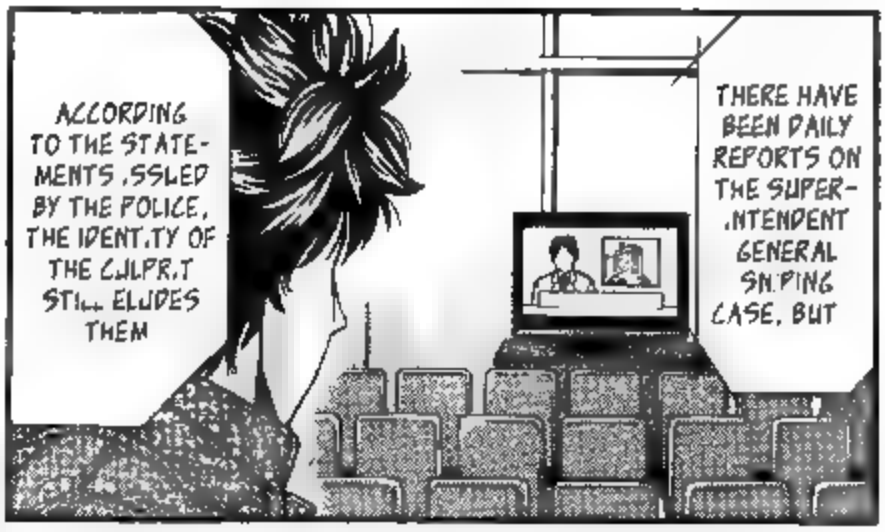
AH

AH!!

IIDA-SAN HAS WOKEN UP!!

CALL THE DOCTOR, QUICK!!

TS/N. Annie are you okay? Are you okay? Are you okay Annie?


ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENTS ISSUED BY THE POLICE, THE IDENTITY OF THE CULPRIT STILL ELUDES THEM
THERE HAVE BEEN DAILY REPORTS ON THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL SNIPING CASE, BUT

THE SMASHERS SYNDICATE

HOW DO YOU KNOW I AM A POLICE OFFICER?

POLICE...!?

!!

HE MUST HAVE SEEN THOSE ZERO OFFICERS AT HIS WORK PLACE

I KNOW IT ALL ENDS TODAY.

SO... GOLD WATCH? WHAT IS THAT?

HOW KNOW GOLD WATCH'S TRUE IDENTITY?

THEN... MY PAST ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE NOT GOLD WATCH TOO...

DETECTIVE IS ALSO [illegible] YOU PROTECT [illegible]

@#$%...

I'M SORRY.

THE CRIMINAL IS A COP JUST LIKE YOU... RIGHT?

THE POLICE FORCE, THE ORGANIZATION THAT SAVED ME, WASN'T IT? THE ONE WHO SAVED ME...

THAT PERSON...

WAI...

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?

I DON'T BUY YOUR BULLSHIT! YOU'RE SAYING THAT THE POLICE THEMSELVES HAVE ATTACKED THEIR OWN LEADER...

I KNEW IT...

THE YAMASHIRO SYNDICATE HAS BEEN TAKING THEIR ORDERS FROM THE POLICE. THEY DO AS THEY ARE TOLD. ALL OF IT

YOU ARE DIRTY, FROM INSIDE OUT!

YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO GIVE ME OR THE YAKUZA THESE EYES!!

THE POLICE...

THE ONE WHO TRIED TO KILL THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL... WAS A POLICE OFFICER!?

?...

SFX: groaar!

SFX: bonk!

HEY!

I HEARD THAT THE VICTIM HAS HOSPITALISED HERE AND HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, RYU-RAKI-SAN!!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

NO!

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE HOSPI-TAL

! ... HI... HIBINO-SAN... LONG TIME NO SEE...

SFX: drag drag drag

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN!

ER... BUT I PULLED AN ALL-NIGHTER AND HAVEN'T GOT A WINK OF SLEEP.

STARTING NOW, WE'RE GOING TO THE SPECIAL IN-VESTIGATION MEETING OF THE SUPER-INTENDENT GENERAL SNIPING CASE!

!

HUH? YOUR HAIR IS SHORT, HIBINO-SAN...

.....

I THINK IT'S ACTUALLY BETTER THAN BEFORE...

IT BECOMES YOU QUITE A LOT, HIBINO-SAN! ♪

EVEN THOUGH WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR QUITE A WHILE, HIBINO-SAN IS SO COLD...

SFX: turn

TS/N: GEE-ZAZ!! Damn woman almost gives me a heart attack!

Kyo h,

TL/N: Is it hardwired in their genes or something!? I mean, praising their hair always works!!

HUH?

HIBINO-SAN GOT SO KIND ALL OF A SUDDEN...

THERE IS A PLACE NEARBY WITH A DELICIOUS MORNING GUEST MENU...

WE STILL HAVE A FEW HOURS, SO HOW ABOUT WE GO TO THE MEETING AFTER SOME BREAKFAST, RYUZAKI-SAN?

ouroboros

ouroboros

ouroboros

NEXT YEAR IS YOUR THIRD AND YOUR FUTURE WILL BE DECIDED BASED ON YOUR CHOICES THIS YEAR!

DANNO-KUN! THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT YOUR CAREER CHOICES!

SFX: quaking with anger

THEN, I ASK YOU... WHAT IS THIS, IN THE FIELD FOR FUTURE EMPLOY-MENT EX-PECTA-TIONS?

UGH...

... I HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THEM SERI-OUSLY.

ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF YOUR TEACHER!?

Police or organised crim

POLICE OR OR-GANISED CRIME...

I'M VERY SERIOUS.

NO.

# 壹

## EPISODE ZERO: DIE

EH

WE'RE DONE, RIGHT?

I'M TELLING YOU TO REFLECT MORE SERIOUSLY ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

THERE IS A LIMIT TO YOUR PRANKS.

HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY BE SERIOUS ABOUT THIS!?

SFX clatter

IF I DON'T GO HOME EARLY AND STOP BY THE SUPER-MARKET, I'LL MISS THE DISCOUNT SALES

Since they are fresh

YOU KNOW I LIVE ALONE, DON'T YOU, TEACHER?

... "DANNO TATSUYA", IS THAT IT...

SFX trip trip

WAIT A SECOND, PLEASE!!

IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME

ISN'T HE A PECULIAR FELLOW, THAT DANNO?

OTHER THAN THE CAREER CHOICES GUIDANCE SESSION, HE IS NOT A PROBLEM STUDENT AT ALL

AH NO.

IS HE A PROBLEM OR SOMETHING?

BESIDES, HE HAS THOSE LOOKS, DOESN'T HE? HIS POPULARITY AMONG THE GIRLS IS OFF THE CHARTS!

FROM THE QUIET, MEEK STUDENTS OF THE LITERATURE CLUB, TO THE SPORTS CLUBS STUDENTS, TO THE DELINQUENTS, HIS CONNECTIONS ARE EXTENSIVE

WITH HIS EXCELLENT GRADES, HE IS USUALLY THE TOP STUDENT OF HIS YEAR.

THAT BEING SAID, IT'S NOT AS IF HE WERE THE BOOKWORM TYPE.

. WELL, HE IS CERTAINLY A GOOD KID, RIGHT?

THE MOST POPULAR PERSON IN THE SCHOOL, THEY SAY.

!.....

DAMN, I'M GETTING JEALOUS NOW

ON VALENTINE'S, EVEN GIRLS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS COME HERE IN DROVES TO GIVE HIM CHOCOLATES. .

I DON'T UNDER-STAND MUCH ABOUT HIM, BUT, HOW CAN I SAY...

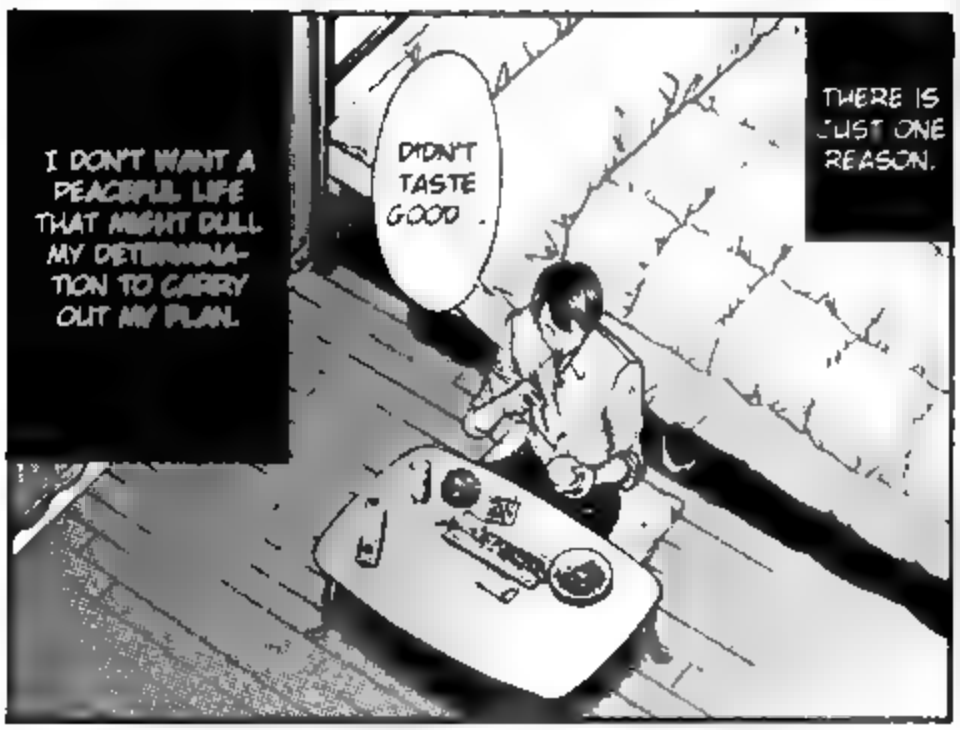
DO NOT BECOME A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LIKE HIM.

BUT... HIS... THOSE PUPILS THAT SEEMED TO HAVE CLOSED THE WAY TO HIS HEART...

... AN ALLY TO WHOM HE CAN OPEN HIS HEART...

PERHAPS HE FEELS THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PERSON...

IT'S NOT THAT THE INSTITUTIONS WERE PARTICULARLY UNCOMFORTABLE.
IF ANYTHING, IT'S THE OPPOSITE.
SINCE THAT INCIDENT I HAVE TRIED TO LIVE WITHOUT GETTING MYSELF TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH OTHER PEOPLE, AS MUCH AS I CAN.


I DON'T WANT A PEACEFUL LIFE THAT MIGHT DULL MY DETERMINATION TO CARRY OUT MY PLAN.
THERE IS JUST ONE REASON.
DIDN'T TASTE GOOD.

SINCE I LEFT "MAHOROBA", I WAS ENTRUSTED TO SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS... AND LEFT THEM WHEN I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL.
NOW, I SCRAPE BY SOMEHOW BY WORKING PART-TIME.

SO, WHICH SHOULD I CHOOSE...

THE POLICE... OR THE YAKUZA...

AROUND THE CLOCK IN THE HEART OF THE B G METROPO-L.S!

FOLLOW.NG THE PO..CE WH..E THEY UPHOLD JUST.CE AGA.NST CR.MINALS

ONE MORE PERSON... I NEED AN ALLY.

EITHER WAY, HOWEVER I THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE FOR ME ALONE.

SOMEONE WHO HAS THE SAME PAST...

THE SAME VALUES...

SFX: vroom...

YES.

IF YOU ARE DONE PREPAR-ING SHALL WE GO?

ONE WHO DEFINITELY WON'T BETRAY ME... WHO CAN RISE WITHIN AN ORGANISATION AND WHO HAS GREAT SKILL.

AND ABOVE ALL, WHO HAS THE SAME PUR-POSES... AN ALLY WHO ADHERES TO THE SAME VALUES.

I CANNOT COUNT ON HIM ANYMORE.

NO...

WHILE WE WERE TOGETHER, HE DIDN'T SEEM TO RECALL THE TRAUMA OF OUR PAST. HE AND I WERE EACH ENTRUSTED TO A DIFFERENT INSTITUTION.

WE HAVEN'T MET ONCE SINCE THAT DAY AND I DON'T HAVE HIS CONTACT INFORMATION.

HRRK HRRK

EVEN IF, FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, I COULD MEET HIM, IT HAS BEEN SIX YEARS SINCE THAT HAPPENED... BY NOW, THAT FELLOW HAS ALREADY GOTTEN ON WITH HIS LIFE..

STARTING NOW, OUR SENPAI KEN-CHAN IS HOLDING A CLUB EVENT IT'S JUST AN IDEA, BUT ARE YOU COMING TOO, TATSUYA? YOU ARE, RIGHT?

IS THAT KAZU?

BEEP

YO, TATSUYA!

WOOH!? SERIOUSLY, TATSUYA!?

AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT, YOU SAY? NO WAY, COULD IT BE A WOMAN!?

CORRECT

NO WAY, YOU SCURVY DOG

HUH!?

SORRY. I HAVE AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT FIRST THING TOMORROW AND SO TODAY I'LL PASS.

TA-TSUYA... HEY.. HELLO!?

I BEG YOU, TATSUYA~ I'LL CALL SOON TO BE MY W.NGMAN! OKAY?

EH? EVERY YEAR!? YOU HAVE A G.RL-FRIEND!?

Hey, this is the first time I've heard about that!

TOMORROW IS A DAY I SET APART EVERY YEAR FOR THAT WOMAN. IT'S AN IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY.

SFX: cnirp chirp

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | |

Thank you very much!

TL note: First time we get a firm date on the events. She was killed in 1994- thus the events in the manga begin 15 years later or 2009. This omake takes place in 2000. We can also calculate the protagonist's ages: they were born in 1983, if we assume Fuuwo is 17 in this chapter.

EIGHTH YEAR OF THE HEISEI ERA. SPRING. IN THE SHINJUKU SUBURB, A WOMAN IN HER TWENTIES WHO RAN A CHILDREN INSTITUTION WAS KILLED.

HOWEVER, THE CASE WENT UNNOTICED AMONG CORRUPTION SCANDALS INVOLVING THE USUAL POLITICS BIGSHOTS AND ONLY APPEARED AS A DECORATIVE ITEM IN NEWSPAPER FOOTNOTE DISPATCHES.

THE NAME OF THE VICTIM WAS KAGIHIWABA YUUKO.

AND THAT HAPPENED TODAY, THE 18TH OF OCTOBER.

EXACTLY SIX YEARS AGO.

SHE DIED INSTANTLY AFTER BEING SHOT ONCE IN THE HEART WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED PISTOL.

HER DEATH ANNIVERSARY.

SHE HAD NO RELATIVES AND HER ASHES WERE BURIED IN THIS FINAL RESTING PLACE WITH THE SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY LEFT FROM THE INSTITUTION.

SOIL WHAT WE FOUND OUT WAS AN ORPHAN JUST LIKE US, DID.

THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO KNEW OF HER EXISTENCE WERE THE HANDFUL OF CHILDREN WHO LIVED IN THE INSTITUTION.

WHEN YOU BECOME AN ADULT WE'RE GOING TO DRINK BEER TOGETHER

SHE HAD NO RELATIVES, AND NOT ONE CLOSE FRIEND.

MYSELF INCLUDED.

HOWEVER, EVEN IF THE CHILDREN OF THAT INSTITUTION KNEW HER AS SHE WAS THEN, THEY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT HER PAST.

BFX squish

LONG TIME NO SEE.

YUIKO-SENSEI.

ROSES...

SFX: wind blowing

HT

NO

PEOPLE DON'T USU-ALLY USE ROSES FOR VISITING GRAVES.

COULD IT BE THAT ANOTHER PERSON WAS ENSHRINED IN THIS GRAVE AND SOMEONE ELSE CAME TO PAY THEIR RE-SPECTS?

THE F. MERS YUIKO SENSEI

SOMEONE ELSE CAME TO VISIT YUIKO-SENSEI'S GRAVE!?

NO WAY...

NO WAY, SOMEONE WHO KNOWS SENSEI'S PAST!?

IS SOMEONE THERE!?

SFX: turn!

SFX. turn. turn!

SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH BEHIND SENSEI'S MURDER...

PERHAPS...

SFX. splosh!

TS/N: PAMMIT PAME

SFX: jolt!

WHO IS THERE!?

WHO IS THAT FELLOW!?

WAIT RIGHT THERE!!

SFX. dash!

SFX: turn!

ARE THEY CONNECTED TO THE LOT WHO KILLED YUIKO-SENSEI!?

JUST ESCAPING, LIKE THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THAT CASE!? IMPOSSIBLE...

SFX. pick

SFX: swish

THIS IS BAD... AS THINGS GO, I'LL LOSE HIM!

SFX: toss

YOU THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE!?

I CANNOT KEEP UP WITH HIM, IS THAT IT!?

... EVEN IF THEY ARE, WHAT'S WITH THAT SPEED? THIS FELLOW,

SFX. thunk!

SFX. grab!

!!

PFK.

WHAT IS YOUR CONNECTION TO YUIKO-SENSEI, BASTARD!?

WERE YOU THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THOSE ROSES!?

YOU SAW ME AND RAN AWAY, DIDN'T YOU!? EXPLAIN WHAT ARE YOU UP TO...

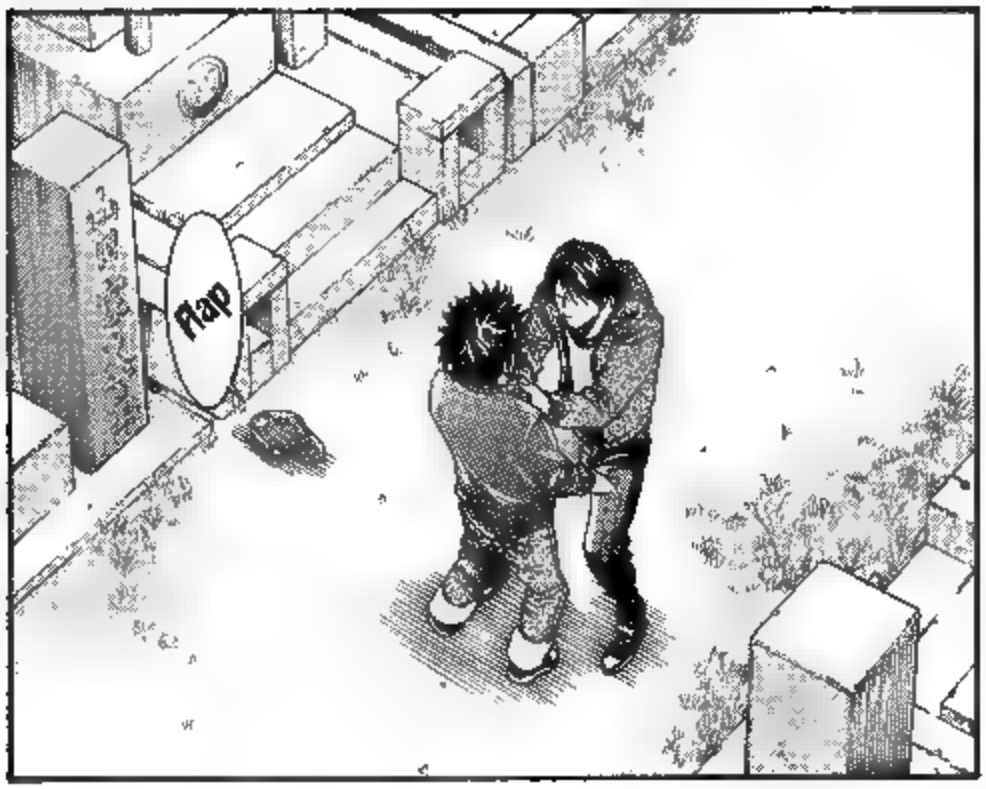
SFX. clutch!

SFX: step step step step

!!

!!

!!


Flap

.....
I-I'LL EXPLAIN, ALRIGHT... WHY... A- ARE YOU SHOUTING...
Hic!

TWIPI
.....
YOU
YOU ARE...

... EH?

YOU ARE... IKUO!?

TWITCH

TWITCH

THAT WAS HOW, AFTER SIX YEARS,

HUH?

A-ARE YOU... PER-HAPS...

TAT-CHAN?

HE AND I MET AGAIN.

ouroboros

ouroboros

ouroboros

DESTINIES TIED BY YUIKO-SENSE!...

IKUO AND I MEETING AGAIN WAS PROBABLY SOMETHING DESTINED TO HAPPEN.

IKUO?

... TAT-CHAN.

EPISODE ZERO: TWO

HYAH!

SFX: thump, hit, punch

AFTER YUIKO-SENSEI WAS MURDERED, IKUO AND I WERE ENTRUSTED TO SEPARATE FOSTER CARE INSTITUTIONS.

MINE WAS IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA

AND IKUO'S WAS IN CHIBA.

HA!

YAA!

HYAH!

FACING HIS INSTITUTION IS THIS KARATE DOUJOU, RUN BY THE INSTITUTION'S ADMINISTRATOR.

THE STAFF ARE ALL CURRENT STUDENTS AND IT IS OPEN FREE OF CHARGE TO SALARYMEN RETURNING HOME FROM THEIR DAILY OFFICE WORK.

AND INSIDE OF IT IS THAT MAN.

SFX: "yaa" above, "thank you very much" below

SFX: wobble wobble

IT FIGURES.

.....

AND WHEN I TOUCHED HIM, I COULD TELL HE WAS STRONG...

THAT HE GOT LIKE THAT...

IT'S ALL THAT, DAY-TO-DAY, HE SHOWED ABNORMAL SPEED...

IT'S ALL FROM BEING RAISED IN THIS KIND OF ENVIRONMENT

Aww...

Awe-some!

...Hoo

CREAK CREAK

SFX: whaam!

HE IS THE FOUNDER OF THE UTSUKI STYLE OF KARATE, A BRANCH OF THE KYOKUWEI SCHOOL. HE HAS ALSO ADOPTED HIS STYLE AS PART OF THE REARING OF THE CHILDREN FROM THE INSTITUTION.

HE IS THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FOSTER CARE INSTITUTION, UTSUKI TADAMU.

TL/N: Not only the style, but even the school name is fictional. It's derived from Kyokushin, a real karate school. "School" here is intended to mean a tradition, not a physical building.

HAAA!

SFX: pant!

IKUO...

PAWNCH

SFX: rumble!

!!

EVEN SO...

WHY, IKUO, ARE YOU...?!

WHEN WE CALL YOU, YOU COME IMMEDIATELY, OKAY?

I... I'M SORRY!

RYUUZAKI,

THE CLEANING TOOK LONGER, THAT'S WHY

BU. BUT

UGH!!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY "YES, SIR!"

SFX: HAHA

AND EVEN IF I DID, I WOULD NOT FORGIVE YOU.

I CAN'T HEAR YOU.

HEY, HEY AREN'T YOU EXAGGERATING? IT WILL BE BAD IF THAT FELLOW RATS US OUT TO HIS PARENTS OR SOMETHING.

JUST DIE!!

SFX: crunch

ARGH! YOU DIRTIED ME WITH THAT NOSEBLEED!

SFX: kick!

OH, SHIT!

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, RYUZAKI-KUN!?

IT WILL BE FINE! THIS BASTARD HAS NO PARENTS!

HUH? FOR REAL?

SFX: kick, thump

SERIOUSLY YOU ARE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE.

N-NO... THAT'S NOT BULLYING, IT'S... EDUCATION?

!

HERE, RYUZAKI, WANNA WIPE THE BLOOD?

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

HEY!

ARE YOU BULLYING RYUZAKI-KUN AGAIN?

AS A TEACHER, I DON'T THINK VIOLENCE IS GOOD, EITHER.

HOWEVER, IT'S YOUR ATTITUDE THAT CAUSES THIS, RIGHT, RYUZAKI?

IS THAT SO?

YOU ARE FINE AGAIN!

ALRIGHT!

SFX: GRIN

HOW AWFUL!
THIS FELLOW HAS NO PARENTS OR EVEN A FRIEND, SO...
YOU, TOO... BE A LITTLE FRIENDLY TO RYUZAKI, WILL YOU?
AREN'T YOU THE HARSHEST OF US, TEACHER?

.....

WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING LIKE AN IDIOT BAS-TARD?

!

GOOD THERE SEEM TO BE NO CUTS WITHIN MY MOUTH

THEY WOULD STING DURING MEALS

SIGH

ASA-KUN AND THE OTHERS COULD HAVE GONE EASIER.

COUGH

C'MON

Finally! This is the most fur-trimmed ensemble after a bathing I've seen in my entire life.

SFX: running

だだだだ

WHY ARE YOU HERE...

TA... TAT-CHAN!!

SINCE OUR CHILDHOOD, YOU WOULD RUN AND HIDE BEHIND ME... IT WAS DE-PRESSING...

This →

YOU WERE JUST A CRYBABY WHO WOULD JUST FIDGET AROUND UNLESS I WAS THERE, WEREN'T YOU? GOLDFISH POOP...

GO. GOLD-FISH POOP

YOU HAVEN'T MATURED A SINGLE DAY SINCE OLD TIMES, YOU.

AUGH I'M TEMPTED!!!

WHY DIDN'T YOU FIGHT BACK?

AND YET, AS YOU ARE TODAY, YOU COULD PERFECTLY HOLD YOUR OWN AGAINST THOSE KIDS.

EVEN TAT-CHAN THINKS IT. I AM A DEPRESSING FELLOW!

IT'S AS THE TEACHER AND EVERYONE SAY... IT'S DEFINITELY MY FAULT, ISN'T IT?

... FIGHTING BACK? NO WAY!

I DON'T LIKE VIOLENCE.

TS/N: Ladies and gentlemen: the eyes of the indoctrinated. This kid's soul is broken worse than china dropped from the top of the Willis Tower.

GIVE IT TIME, AND THE WOUNDS WILL HEAL.

THANKS TO KARATE, I KEPT VITAL SPOTS OUT OF HARM.

IT DOESN'T HURT AS MUCH AS I THOUGHT IT WOULD, THUS I AM FINE... BESIDES...

...THIS FELLOW IS HOPELESS.

HE DOESN'T HAVE THE METTLE TO HIT A PERSON, IS THAT IT...

COME TO THINK OF IT, EVEN IN THE DOJO IKUO STUCK TO HITTING THE SANDBAG ONLY.

HE COULD BECOME THE PARTNER I NEED FOR MY PLAN... OR SO I THOUGHT, BUT...

IF IT WERE IKUO, WHO CARRIES THE SAME SCAR AS I DO, PERHAPS

SFX: running around

BOWLING? KARAOKE? AH, I KNOW, WHY DON'T WE GET A PHOTO BOOTH STICKER TOGETHER...

WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?

.....

LET'S HAVE FUN TOGETHER LIKE OLD TIMES!

YOU CAME HERE JUST TO SEE ME, DIDN'T YOU?

EH... ARE... ARE YOU LEAVING ALREADY!?

WELL, IKUO, LATERS.

HERE, LOOK AT THIS, LOOK!

AH... THAT'S RIGHT!

... I'M SORRY, BUT CONTRARILY TO YOUR COLLEAGUES I DON'T HAVE FREE TIME

TL/N: Ikuo is being slightly creepy now. Even in Japan, photo booth sticker pictures are more of a girl thing.

HERE!

THE NECKLACE YUIKO-SENSEI USED TO WEAR.

DO YOU RE-MEMBER?

!!

AND I HAVE KEPT IT AS A CHARM.

AFTER THAT HAPPENED, I SECRETLY REMOVED IT FROM HER PERSONAL BELONG-INGS.

IT'S THE OURO-BOROS.

BUT.. IT HAS A WEIRD SHAPE, THIS NECKLACE, DOESN'T IT? I WONDER WHAT IT IS.. A DRAGON? A SNAKE?

ITS UNIQUE SHAPE REPRESENTS THE INFINITENESS OF THE WORLD

AS WELL AS "BIRTH AND DEATH", "IMMORTALITY", "BOUNDLESSNESS", "DESTRUCTION AND CREATION".

OUROBOROS

ACCORDING TO THE GREEK STORY IT'S A BEAST THAT DEVOURS ITS OWN TAIL

THE WOUND LEFT INSIDE ME BY THAT CASE WON'T HEAL.

EVER.

... EEEH.

SO IT MEANS ALL THESE THINGS, UH?

GOOD-BYE, IKUO.

I'M NOT FEELING WELL, SO I'LL CLOSE SHOP EARLY TODAY
HUH? ARE YOU GOING HOME, TATSUYA?

AFTER THAT, I DIDN'T GO TO SEE IKUO ANYMORE.
I JUST HAVE NO TASTE FOR REVIVING THE PAST OR INDULGING MY NOSTALGIA OR OTHER SENTIMENTAL NONSENSE.

I AM RYUZAKI IKUO'S GUARDIAN. UTSUKI
YOU ARE ... DANNO TAT-SUYA-KUN, AREN'T YOU?

I GOT YOUR ADDRESS FROM YOUR
Enjoy
Cafe Kosuzu

THE RUMOURS ABOUT THE MASTER ARE THAT DESPITE HIS OLD AGE HE HAS EXCEPTIONAL VIGOUR

COULD THIS SO-CALLED REQUEST BE A THREAT INSTEAD?

I HAVE COME HERE TODAY TO ASK SOMETHING OF YOU.

IT WAS BY PURE CHANCE THAT WE MET AND WHILE WE ARE AT IT, THE ONLY REASON I WENT TO SEE HIM AGAIN IS THAT I WAS A LITTLE CURIOUS AS TO HOW HE WAS FARING

NO NEED TO WORRY! I HAVE NO INTENTION OF MEETING IKUO AGAIN.

I GET YOUR BUSINESS. YOU CAME TO TELL ME "DON'T COME SEE IKUO ANYMORE", RIGHT?

YOU PEOPLE SEPARATED US IN ORDER TO PREVENT OLD SCARS FROM FESTERING, DIDN'T YOU?

?

WHAT IS IT NOW

PLEASE WAIT, TATSUYA-KUN.

IF THIS MATTER IS SETTLED, PLEASE EXCUSE ME I HAVE

SFX: SLIP

¡¡

¡Qué...!

¿...?

!?

PLEASE TELL ME

WHAT ON EARTH

IS HE?

I AM TERRIFIED OF IKUO!!

OU-RO BO...

EEE H

WHAT'S WITH THAT?

SHOULD BE THE POLICE TOO, RIGHT?

THE ONES WHO CAN EFFORTLESSLY CRUSH THAT TINY LIFE OF YOURS...

SFX. glub glub glub

WHEN THAT MAN THREATENED US... AT THAT TIME, DEEP WITHIN MY HEART I WAS FRIGHTENED...

THE SAME DREAM AGAIN... THE DREAM I'VE HAD MANY TIMES SINCE I WAS A KID...

.....

A DREAM...

# 参
## エピソードゼロ
## EPISODE ZERO: THREE

BY RISING TO INFLUENCE IN THE UNDERWORLD AND ACQUIRING THE POWER TO OPPOSE GOLD WATCH, I'LL GET CLOSER TO HIM FROM THE SHADOWS.

OTHERWISE,

BY BECOMING A POLICEMAN LIKE HIM, I'LL GET CLOSER TO "GOLD WATCH" BY FOLLOWING A DIRECT PATH.

I CANNOT CHOOSE BOTH WAYS.

WHY AM I GETTING COLD FEET, NOW!?

...SHIT!

IF, WHEN THE TIME COMES, I HAVE ONE MORE PARTNER...

SFX: rise

EVEN IF GOLD WATCH AND I END UP STABBING EACH OTHER, I WILL...

I DON'T NEED PARTNERS.

TERRIFIED OF IKUO!!

I AM

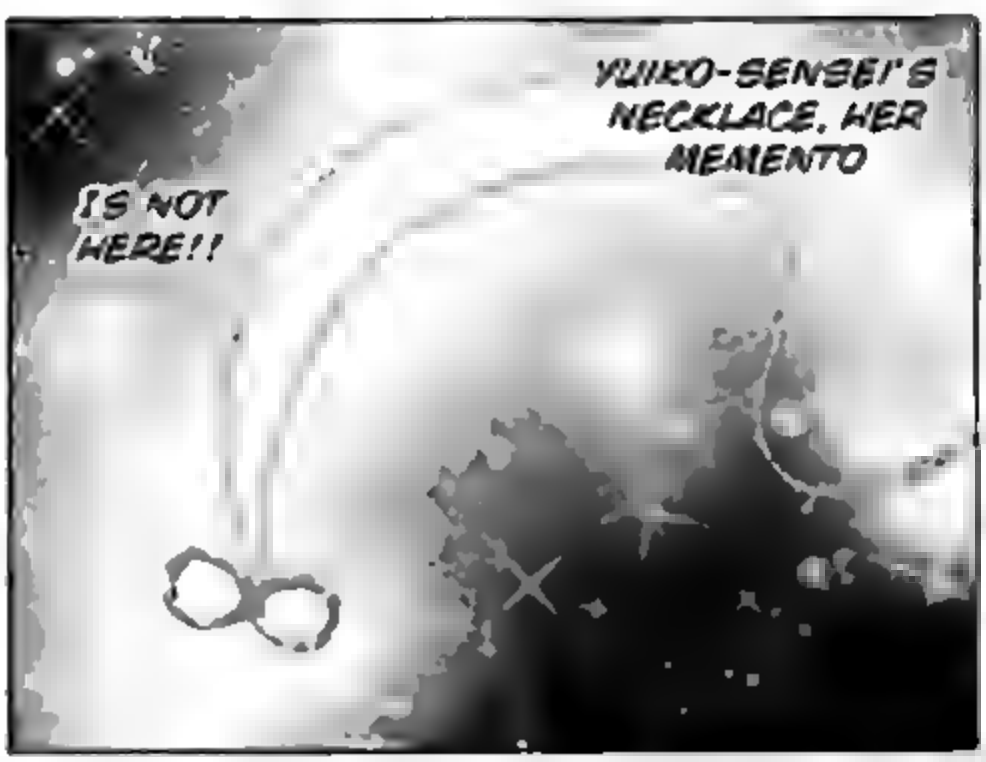
FOR HIM TO BE SCARED WITLESS LIKE A LITTLE KID

EVEN THOUGH HE'S OLD HE'S A SEASONED KARATE MASTER THAT MAN

THAT IKUO A SCAREDY-CAT WHO COULDN'T STRIKE BACK EVEN AGAINST THOSE OF M WITS FROM HIS SCHOOL

BESIDES, THAT RIGHT EYE THAT WAS CHANGED DO IKUO DO THAT?

THAT STORY UTSUKI TOLD EARLIER... WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?



SFX: rummaging

WHAT THE...

AAAH, WELL, TOO BAD, IT'S NOT COMING BACK, YOU KNOW

HE WENT AND CONFISCATED MY DS... I'M SO MAD...

WHAT HAPPENED?

SHIT, THAT FUKUMOTO BASTARD, HE MUST STOP FOOLING AROUND!!

AM I NOT RIGHT?

RYUZAKI, YOU HAVE YOUR FAULTS AS WELL, DON'T YOU?

HE HAS NO BUSINESS INSPECTING OUR BAGS AS HE PLEASES!!

YOURS WAS DEFINITELY TIPPED OFF TO HIM, I TELL YOU.

.....

RYUKAKI HAS? SERIOUSLY?

I CONFISCATED IT FROM RYUZAKI. HE HAS BROUGHT AN UNAUTHORISED ACCESSORY TO SCHOOL.

IS THIS... RYUZAKI'S? LOOKS LIKE A SNAKE.

IS IT SOMETHING WOMEN WEAR?

THIS... IS PROBABLY QUITE EXPENSIVE, ISN'T IT?

. . THAT'S A SURPRISE, FOR RYUZAKI TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN WOMEN...

GIVE IT TO ME! MY GIRL'S BIRTHDAY IS COMING.

It will save me the money for the present!

FOR REAL?

I AM GIVING THAT TO YOU.

FUKUMOTO-SENSEI, WHAT IS THIS?

SFX: exhale

TS/N: How stupid do you have to be to not know what that is?

IT'S A HUNDRED YEARS TOO EARLY FOR THAT CHERRY BOY!

THE NECKLACE.

GIVE BACK

THIS IS BAD, SENSE. RYUZAKI-KUN IS MAKING AN UGLY FACE.

...HUH?

GIVE IT BACK...

SFX: drop

WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO YOUR TEACHER IN THESE TERMS?

RYU-ZAK

WHAT YOU TEACHER IS SAYING IS THAT HE IS DOING THIS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD GET IT?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT THAT, HUH? HEY?

TO BEGIN WITH, BY BRINGING THIS KIND OF THING TO THE SCHOOL, YOU ARE IN THE WRONG

SFX: crunch crunch crunch

SWITCH!

...OM ...N ON, ...RRECT ...ER ATTI-TUDES TO LIFE AND-

AND AS PUNISH-MENT AS YOUR TEACHER I HAVE CONFIS-CATED THAT NECK-LACE

SFX: sudden appearance

COME ON, TELL US

HEY RYU-ZAKI

WHOM WERE YOU THINKING OF GIVING THIS AS A PRESENT TO?

COME ON, SENSEI, YOU SAY THAT BUT YOU WANNA KNOW, TOO ♪

SERI-OUSLY YOU FEL-LOWS

FROM NOW ON, BEAR THAT IN MIND!

I HAVE NO INTENTION OF SHOWING YOU SYMPATHY BECAUSE YOU HAVE NO PARENTS!

AH, WELL...

WAI THAT WAS. IN THAT SECOND

!

EH? WHAT HAPPENED TO MY NOSE?

Y-YOUR NOSE IS BENT!!

SE... SEBE... BENSE!! OUR N- OSE!!

HUH?

UWAAH! THAT NOSE IS!?

RYU-ZAKI... THIS... D-DID... YOU...?

HEY, MY NOSE ..

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY NOSE?

HEY, HEY, YOU AREN'T YOU FORGET-TING ABOUT ME?

SFX. trickle trickle

GIVE HER BACK...

GIVE HER BACK!!

YUIKA-SEN-SEI...

I ENDED UP COMING HERE TO SEE IKUO AGAIN...

...TSK...

.....

JUST IN CASE, I'LL CIRCLE THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND TAKE A LOOK

BUT EVEN IF I DID, BY THIS TIME HE WILL HAVE ALREADY HEADED HOME

HE WILL MUCH SOONER BECOME A BURDEN. NO MATTER HOW I CUT IT, THAT KIND OF PERSON WOULD BE OF NO USE...

TO MAKE HIM AN ALLY IN MY PLAN? THAT KID?

I'D HAVE TO BE CRAZY...

EVEN IF I WANT A PARTNER...

SFX: turn

SINCE I CAME HERE FOR HIM, I'LL TAKE A LOOK THERE.

THE LOT THAT BULLIED IKUO, IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, SHOULD BE BEHIND THE GYMNASIUM...

!

SFX: pass

ス.:

BUT IF HE IS BEING BULLIED AGAIN, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF MOVING A FINGER TO HELP HIM .

AN AMBULANCE!
WHAT...!?
AAAH
AAAH
MY NOSE... AAAH ...
SFX: klak!

DID IKUO...
DO THIS!?

WHAT...
IS THIS!?

I-IKUO...
YOU...

WHAT'S WRONG, TAT-CHAN?

.....

ぴた

ぴた

THAT DAY ...
THE ONLY ONE TO SEE THE MOMENT WHEN YUIKO-SENSEI WAS MURDERED WAS IKUO I HEARD THE SHOT AND RUSHED TO THE SPOT.
YUIKO-SENSEI HAD FALLEN ONTO THE GROUND AND WAS COVERED WITH BLOOD, AND IKUO WAS STANDING NEXT TO HER

IKUO'S LIES STAY NOW

PERHAPS... THAT DAY,

WHEN HIS MOST PRECIOUS PERSON IN THE WHOLE WORLD DIED BEFORE HIS EYES,

SOMETHING PRECIOUS INSIDE IKUO

DIED AS WELL...

AND AT THAT MOMENT, HE HAD THE SAME EYES...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

UH... EH?

TAT-CHAN?

UGH ...

UH...

!

SFX. slip

YOU PASS.

EH?

# ouroboros

Next issue will be ———

**Comic Art**
Kanzaki Yuya

**Assistant Regular&Help**
Katou Toshiaki

Fujita Rikiya

Yoshizawa Sawako

Iwaya Akira

Inoue Minako

Miura Masahiro

Ikeda Tetsuya

**Color**
Aoshika Yukari

ouroboros
DATA FILE 〈 POLICE OFFICERS' AFFILIATION CHART 〉

【 MPD HQ 】

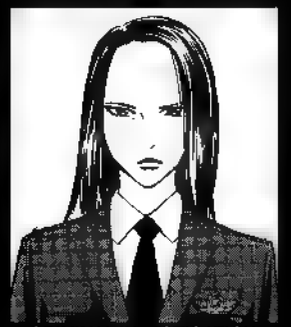
SECURITY BUREAU, SECURITY PLANNING DIVISION (ZERO) SUPERINTENDENT OSHITARI KŌJI

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT SUPERVISOR HIJIRI YUKITO

PERSONNEL AND TRAINING BUREAU, SUPERVISOR CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT HIBINO KUNIHIKO

SECURITY BUREAU, SECURITY PLANNING DIVISION (ZERO) SUPERINTENDENT GANAHA MAMORU

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT TAKENOUCHI KATSUMI (DIRECTOR)



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT TACHIBANA TOMIKO (ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER)

THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN WATCH

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT WASHIO KEI (ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER)

PERSONNEL AND TRAINING BUREAU, PERSONNEL OFFICE ASSISTANT INSPECTOR TAMURA KONATSU

HEADQUARTERS CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION – TEMPORARY DISPATCH

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION ASSISTANT INSPECTOR HIBINO MIDUKI

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FIRST DIVISION INSPECTOR BANDŌ SHIRŌ

【 SHINJUKU SECOND DIVISION 】

SHINJUKU SECOND DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS SECTION SERGEANT RYŪZAKI IKUO

SHINJUKU SECOND DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS SECTION INSPECTOR MISHIMA KAORU

SHINJUKU SECOND DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS SECTION SERGEANT KURA NAOTARŌ

SHINJUKU SECOND DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS SECTION OFFICER KANDORI KAZUMA

【 SHINJUKU FIRST DIVISION 】

SHINJUKU FIRST DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS SECTION SERGEANT SHŌJI TARŌ

SHINJUKU FIRST DIVISION, CRIMINAL AFFAIRS SECTION INSPECTOR CHŌNO SHIN'ICHI

この作品は二〇一一年六月新潮社より刊行された。

電子書籍化に際し、仕様上の都合により適宜編集を加えた。

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# DEATHTOLL

DEATHTOLLSCANS.NET

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REDRAWER:

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